Your hometown newspaper serving Canton for 29 years

THURSDAY

December 18, 2003 75 cents

VOLUME 29 NUMBER 48

(Diserter

Cookie crazy

Baking holiday cookies brings the family together. Taste, D1



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Veno

Justice delayed

The courtroom was filled with defendants and attorneys at 8:30 a.m. Monday. But there was no sign of 35th District Court Judge Ron

Lowe. It's a known fact around the courthouse that those 8:30 a.m. sessions rarely start right on the dot. But 8:45 came. And passed. Finally, just before 9 a.m., Lowe entered the courtroom.

"I apologize for being late," he said. "I wouldn't put up with it from you and I won't put up with it from myself. I'm holding myself in contempt of court and fining myself \$50.

And justice for all.

Flu shots

The Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan will offer a public clinic for flu shots noon to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at Kroger, 1905 Canton Center Road. It is



also offering shots and the nasal vaccine, FluMist by appointment at its Oak Park office, 25900 Greenfield, Suite 600 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Flu shots are \$17 and FluMist is \$60. For more information, call the VNA at (248) 967-8752.

Dive in

The Canton Leisure Services will host Swim. Gym & Film Spectacular on New Year's Eve day, a first for the township. At noon, you can watch Atlantis: The Lost Empire, followed by an open swim 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wally the Polar Bear will ioin swimmers 2-3 p.m. Also on tap will be a family fitness class 2-3 p.m. The day will conclude with a balloon drop.

Admission is \$3 per person or \$10 per family.

Give blood

Gallimore Elementary School will host its third annual blood drive 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, at the school, 8375 N. Sheldon Road. Call (734) 453-3539 for an appointment.

Radio debut

Local CPA Fred Grant made his radio debut at 6:35 a.m. Saturday on News/Talk Radio 760 WJR in a feature called "Inside Small Business," a feature to run every Saturday on the Warren Pierce show.

Grant offers advice and tips for small business owners. Part of the show will include answering listeners' specific questions and spotlighting local companies,

Grant's office is located in the Plymouth Atrium Center. His Web site is www.fgrantcpa.com and he can be reached at (734) 455-1040.



Well-known community activist and business leader Bob Boyer started his Boyer's Meat Processing company after he sold his grocery store. His is the only slaughterhouse in Canton.

An independent cut-up

Volunteer freely gives his time, effort

When Bob Boyer was in the Air Force, he used to hang out with some cooks and the guy who ran the base's meat plant.

"He said to me one day, 'Bob, I've got a chance to go to Germany for a tour, but there's nobody to take over the meat plant," Boyer recalled. "I said, 'Hell, I can learn to do it. Show me what there is to

His buddy showed him and Boyer learned butchering. Basically I just picked up a

knife and started cutting," he said. When he got out of the Air Force he returned to Michigan and went to work for Kroger. Then, in 1968, he opened his own store, Boyer's Supermarket, at Michigan Avenue and Denton

Road in Canton. Seventeen years later he sold the store.

'I got tired of it," he said. "I was offered a good price. I sold it and

But not for long.

He opened another business next door to his home on Barr Road, Boyer's Meat Processing, and he's been running it ever

A 20-year-old Canton woman

accused of drowning her 11-month-

old son was remanded to the

Ypsilanti Forensics Center on

tent to stand trial.

for sometime in March.

Monday after a psychiatric exam

determined that she was incompe-

Judge Ron Lowe of 35th District

Court signed the order committing

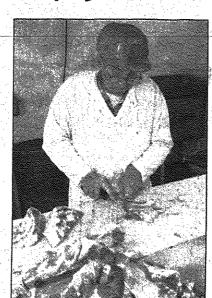
her to the center where she is to be

treated and evaluated. A review of

the case was tentatively scheduled

with murder in the first degree,

Jennifer Ann Avery was charged



Processing, cuts up beef.

"It's really a slaughterhouse processing plant," he said. "We process cattle and livestock for the farmers. And deer for the hunters."

It's one of the few, if not the only, independent slaughterhouses left in the country.

But Boyer added a new twist to

felony murder and first-degree

child abuse after her son, Bryan,

was drowned in a bathtub in their

apartment. Her husband was not

She was arrested Oct. 22 after

calling Canton Police and telling

them her son had slipped in the

bathtub and was not breathing.

Hospital in Wayne where he was

A preliminary exam last month

was postponed after Avery's court-

appointed attorney, Donald W.

Bryan was taken to Annapolis

home at the time.

pronounced dead.

the business - he processes ritually killed animals for religious groups, specifically Muslims, whose religion requires that the meat be slaughtered in a certain way before it can be consumed.

While family members or clerics usually perform the actual killing according to their ritual, Boyer processes the meat for them and produces meat that is officially known as hallal.

February is one of the busiest months for these rituals, when Boyer says he'll process about 250 animals in three days.

He also processes lambs and pigs for Greek Easter ceremonies. And of course, all of those deer for that American ritual, deer hunting season.

Despite his work — he's open year-round - Boyer is an active member of the community, including the Chamber of Commerce (where he's the official 50-50 drawing emcee), the Lions Club, the Goodfellows and the Canton Historical Society.

His wife of 48 years, Caroldean, died earlier this year. His three children, Starr, Larry and Mike, all work at the plant with him.

Canton cases on the rise

As the caseloads for the communities it serves -Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township and Canton Township — go, so goes the revenue stream at the 35th District Court in Plymouth.

And lately, except for Canton, where they're going is down.

According to figures released by court officials, the caseloads in both Northvilles and both Plymouths has The pot is shrinking. dropped over the last couple of See related story, page

Court and police officials in those communities cite a number of reasons for the decline,

including turnover among officers and policies that allow officers to hand out warnings instead of tickets. Canton Township is the only one of the five munici-

palities whose caseload is on the rise. "Our overall caseload is up from last year, but it's basically Canton carrying the load," said Kerry Erdman, 35th District Court administrator. "But it's not like a business where you can have a sale. We only

get what comes our way." The decline in revenue comes along with an increase in expenses as the 35th District Court adjusted its budget to fit in the third judge added last



The ground was a bit frozen by outgoing Canton Chamber of Commerce President Rita Lowenstein, Canton Supervisor Tom Yack, Canton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dianne Cojei and Todd LaJoy, the new chamber president, weren't deterred at the groundbreaking for a new chamber facility on

It's official: Work is a go on Canton Chamber facility

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI STAFF WRITER

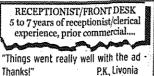
In case you never thought it would happen, it has. The Canton Chamber of Commerce will at long last have its own building in 2004.

"I really think the building will be what the chamber represents - a strong foundation," said incoming chamber president Todd LaJoy of the LaJoy Group at the groundbreaking for the new building Wednesday

"I suppose some people said this would never happen," said Supervisor Tom Yack. "It's an indication of" how strong the chamber is."

A building just for the chamber has been in the works since the 1980s. Bob Card, owner of

PLEASE SEE CHAMBER, A4



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HomeTown

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Classified

At Home

Jenniter Avery

tency hearing.

is re-evaluated.

Teichman, requested the compe-

The charges against Avery will

stay on hold until her competency

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LOOKING AHEAD American Profile

When people perform acts of kindness, it can make a huge difference in a person's life.





"For the Record." appears in every edition of the Eccentric

Newspapers. This column will include items of record such as deaths, births, district court proceedings and other local information.

Deaths

Bruce A. Allen, 82, died Dec. 16.

Edith Mae Bartlett, 82, of Milford, died Dec. 13.

Robert J. Berry of Redford, died

Suzanne K. (Kapecki) Blake, 99, of Farmington Hills, formerly of Livonia, died Dec. 15.

ment. See inside today's edition for more details.

901-2595 or srosiek@oe.homecomm.net.

As always, we welcome your comments.

FOR THE RECORD

Barbara Copley, 64, of Redford, died Dec. 10.

Nancy Miller Dewar, 81, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 8 Samuel L. Dibble, 95, formerly of Plymouth, died Dec. 12.

John "Jack" E. Fearon, 78, of Garden City, died Dec. 14.

Sister Barbara Galant, 90, of Farmington Hills, died Dec. 11 Phillip E. Gardner, 67, of Livonia.

Frederick E. Jones, 94, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 13

died Dec. 4.

Joseph R. "Joe" Knoph, 54, of

New format to make 0 & E newspaper of record

special announcements such as births and deaths. A new listing of area births and deaths, "For the

Record," will appear in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. In 2004, the column

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Sue Rosiek at (734) 953-2100 or (248)

An expanded death notice/memorial or tribute may be purchased through the advertising depart-

will be expanded to include other items of record such as district court proceedings.

Redford, died Dec. 12

Dec. 14.

Joseph Vincent McDonald, 85, of Livonia, died Dec. 5. Ruby Folker Merrion, 91, formerly of

Redford, died Dec. 9.

Clayton K. Randell, 72, of Westland, died Dec. 9. Elizabeth Rice, 75, of Westland, died

Henrietta Sepanski, 86, formerly of Livonia, died Dec. 12.

Jack A. "Jackson" Snetsinger, 71, of Livonia, died Dec. 4. Leslie Jean Sockow, 78, of Canton, died Dec. 11.

Michael D. Sullivan, 44, of Birmingham, died Dec. 14.

Production will celebrate Canton's cultural mix

STAFF WRITER

Canton Performing Arts Coordinator Jennifer Tobin calls it "a really cool thing." Award-winning director Gilian Eaton of Plymouth calls it a "celebration of the cultural variety."

Eaton and Tobin want to make both come true with a September 2004 multi-discipline production that will celebrate Canton's cultural diversity. The production that will highlight music, art, theater and dance will be based on an epic poem, Sacred Elephant, by British poet and artist Heathcote Williams.

The poem, which will be used as a metaphor for Canton's diversity, explores the lives of the Indian/Asian and African elephants in the wild and in captivity. The poem will be used as a foundation on which to explore Canton's Indian/Asian and African cultures, which represent a growing part of the township's population.

The first step in the effort has been completed with the



\$500 planning grant for the 2004 Community pARTner: Artists-in-Residence Program, designed to

bring the community together with arts groups. Canton Leisure Services will provide a \$500 matching grant. The second step is application and, with any luck, receipt of a \$15,000 grant to bring the production to reality.

"Part of the planning process is that we go out and talk to the community," Tobin said. "It encourages the community in the creative process."

The planning process also involves partners such as the Detroit Zoo, Canton Township, the Partnership for Arts and Humanities (which raises money for the new Canton theater), as well as musician Josh White Jr. and drummer Efe Bes. Also to be involved is Canton Project Arts, Canton **Human Relations Commission** and Canton Public Television. "The fun of this will be to see who comes out for this proj-

ect," Tobin said. Tobin and Eaton would like to include university Asian and African studies departments, active Asian and African American student groups in the Plymouth-Canton school district, local arts, cultural and religious organizations, as well as local governments and the

business community. "We will create a performance from nothing," Eaton said. "We will show the joy of integrating the cultures. This will be a celebration of our connections."

From the initial planning grant, the plan for the production and a budget will be created in anticipation of receiving the larger grant.

"I think the odds are in favor of us getting the grant," Eaton said.

The \$15,000 grant, if Canton receives it, must be matched with another \$15,000 that can come from ticket sales, grants, donations and other sources. "But part of it has to be cash," Tobin added.

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POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS

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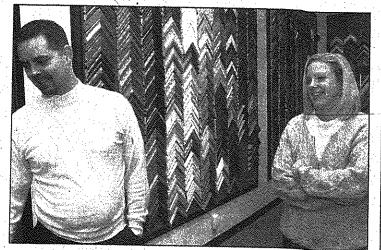
"About that naughty and nice business. My wife, she's in good shape. She's gonna get the good stuff this year."

Santa strikes again



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Mark and Stephanie Heisey of Dearborn opened FASTFRAME in Canton.

Get framed at new Canton business

If you want it framed and you want it fast, Mark and Stephanie Heisey have a deal

The Dearborn couple, he's 39, she's 33, recently opened FASTFRAME in Canton, a franchise picture framing shop that offers high-quality framing services in as little as 24 hours.

It's the third Michigan store in the national chain which has more than 270 stores internationally and opened more than 100 new stores this past year.

What sets FASTFRAME apart from more traditional framing shops, according to Mark, is its high quality framing with quick turnaround time.

"We actually build the frames here," he said. "And we can have it done in less than 24 hours because we do it on site."

The store, located in Canton Corners center at Ford and Lilley roads, in the old Dearborn Music site, opened Sept. 10. So far, Mark said, business has been good.

While it's not inexpensive you can get an 11-by-13-inch print framed for about \$65 or go up as high as you can afford - he said their prices are competitive with traditional Mom and Pop operations. And you can get that same print framed in a \$400 piece if you want to.

Featuring high quality frames from more than 10 different manufacturers, FAST-

FRAME has the buying power

of a franchise operation. "We also have an Intranet that lets us connect to other stores across the country," Mark said. "If we're stumped about how to frame a particular project, and ask if anyone else has information."

While he said the Canton store has received no "strange" framing requests yet, he said one person did send a request over the Intranet asking how to frame a snake skin.

"Somebody in Texas wrote back and said 'Oh, I framed one just last week. Here's how to do it."

The store also has a 30-day guarantee policy. "If, within 30 days, you don't like it," Mark said, "bring it back and we'll reframe it, remat it, at no cost as long as the new materials don't cost more than the original. In that case the customer just pays the difference."

Mark and Stephanie said most customers are women.

Women will come in to get prints to decorate the home," Mark said. "Men are into sports memorabilia or sports posters - stuff for their rec

FASTFRAME takes major credit cards and is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. It's closed Sunday.

The chain has a Web site a www.fastframe.com.

Court's revenue pot shrinking

Decline in caseloads bringing less cash into 35th District Court

Of the five communities served by 35th District Court in Plymouth, four have caseload numbers that have fallen the past couple of years.

As a result, the money generated by traffic tickets, civil infractions and misdemeanor offenses is bringing in less money to the court. Plus, higher court expenses means even less total revenue for the court to divide among the communities.

Statistics provided by Court Administrator Kerry Erdman show Canton Township as the only community with an increased caseload at 35th District Court, while Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township have seen a steady decline in their caseloads.

"Our overall caseload is up from last year, but it's basically Canton carrying the load," said Erdman. "But, it's not like a business where you can have a sale. We only get what comes our way."

Plymouth Police Chief Wayne Carroll said part of the reason for a reduction in tickets in the City of Homes is the turnover his department has experienced.

"We went through a period of three years where we were in constant flux from retirements and retraining of new officers, getting them up to speed," said Carroll. "It's a learning curve, but not such a drop that caused us any concern."

Plymouth Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington said a reduction in the number of accidents is one of the biggest reasons for a reduction in the number of tickets issued by his officers.

"Accidents have been reduced significantly over the past few years," said Tiderington. "We've identified highcrash areas in the township where we've had accidents, and have posted officers at those locations to make motorists aware. Many times a warning is as good as a ticket."

Like Tiderington, Canton Township Director of Public Safety John Santomauro said officers are given the leeway to give warnings or tickets during a traffic stop.

"We don't issue tickets for revenue, and we don't consider ticket money a revenue source," said Santomauro. "Besides, the amount of money generated wouldn't make a big impact on the budget."

Meanwhile, the money generated like the number of tickets — is also on a downswing. According to figures from

\$1.3 million in 2000; to \$1 million in 2001; dropping to \$925,000 in 2002: with an estimated \$800,000 this year.

Part of the reason, according to Pam Avdoulos, 35th District Court controller, is the same as with any other business.

"Insurance and workman's comp costs

are going up, while the revenue level is going down," she said. "It's something we don't have control over."

Erdman also noted there's been a \$150,000 increase in staffing costs as a result of the third judgeship at 35th District Court.

COURT REVENUES

1999	111.929.00	236,984.00	85,628.00	217,697.00	640.961.00	1,295,198.00
2000	128,312.00	303,779.00	99,787.00	168,647.00	655,729.00	1,358,254.00
2001	119,825.00	263,851.00	92,350.00	110,251.00	420,807.00	1,009,085.00
2002	\$121,424.00	\$262,479.00	\$110,908.00	\$180,492.00	\$247,439.00	\$924,744.00
YEAR		PLYMOUTH TWP.		NORTHVILLE TWP.	CANTON	TOTAL RETURNED

Note: Court officials estimate revenues returned to communities through the second quarter of 2003 are \$598,000; amounts for indivdual communities are not available.

THE DOCKET

Caseloads for the five communities served by 35th District Court

CITY	2001	2002 THROUGH 9-30-03	
CANTON	23,039	23,046 22,284	
PLYMOUTH	2,908	2,441 2,077	
PLYMOUTH TWP.	8,325	7,306 4.768	
NORTHVILLE	3,493	2.947 1,918	
NORTHVILLE TWP.	6,292	4,961 4,086	****

Percentage of 35th District Court caseloads by community.

CITY	2001	2002	THROUGH 9-30-03
CANTON	52	57	63
PLYMOUTH		6	6
PLYMOUTH TWP.	19	18	14
NORTHVILLE	8	7	
NORTHVILLE TWP.	14	12	

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A debut

Lindsay Riemer conducts the Celebration Strings Youth Orchestra in its first winter concert at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Plymouth Township Tuesday night. The youth orchestra is under construction. The first phase includes string instruments, of which there are currently seven members with an ultimate goal of 30. The second phase would include winds and the third, a full orchestra with brass and percussion. The next auditions are Jan. 10 at Evola Music in Canton. Contact the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra at (734) 451-2112.

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fitness and body awareness, injury prevention, technique improvement for athletes and dancers, remedial and rehabilitation work, and the elderly.



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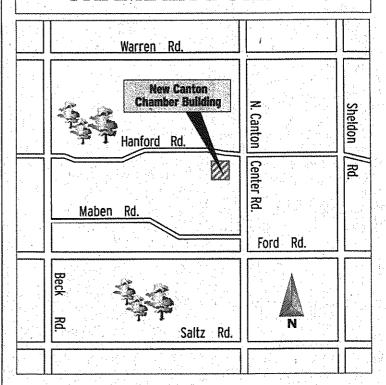
New Years Eve Service December 31, 2003

10:00 p.m. hor d'oeuvres and fellowship 11:00 p.m. service in the Sanctuary



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NEW CANTON CHAMBER BUILDING



CHAMBER

FROM PAGE AT

McDonald's Restaurants kicked off the effort in 1986 with a \$1,000 gift to the chamber's building fund. Today, the Capital Campaign, which will continue, holds more than \$225,000.

The new approximately \$400,000 2,500-square-foot office will be constructed a half-mile north of the present site, just west of the Community Federal Credit Union at Canton Center and Hanford. The new building will double the size of the present facility and be more user-friendly. The project has already been approved by the Canton Planning Commission and Board of Trustees.

Dianne Cojei, chamber executive director, said the building should be ready by June-July, 2004. Currently the chamber rents office space in a small complex on Canton Center north of Ford.

At the ground breaking, Cojei lauded Ross Smith, Yazaki facilities director, for his work in making a new building a reality. "He has given us a zillion hours of his time." She also complimented former chamber president Tom Adamuzik as "the driving force" of the new facility, and the builder, Multi-Building.

Money to build the new facility came from chamber members with three businesses as the top contributors. Yazaki North America contributed \$75,000. They are great community give back people," Cojei said

Oakwood Health Care and developer Richard Lewiston both gave \$10,000 each.

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- The library will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 24 and Thursday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday? In the meantime, you can access many
- library services online at www.cantonpl.org. A goldfish's attention span is three seconds?
- You and your preschoolers can enjoy reading free, animated picture books online? To access from home, go to www.cantonpl.org/kids/reading.html and click on "Tumblebooks."
- Dec. 21 is the 90th anniversary of the first crosswood puzzle ever published? You can check our Internet Branch daily for the Washington Post crossword puzzle.
- Web Watch: Check out these new web sites: www.dieting-review.com

www.mrpicassohead.com

- www.recalls.gov
- www.geosnapper.com New Adult Books
- "Fatal Remains" Eleanor Taylor Bland (fic-
- "Some Kind of Miracle" Iris Rainer Dart (fic-
- "Raising a Moody Child" Mary Fristad (nonfic-
- "Grand Theft" Timothy Watts (fiction) New Children's Books
- "I Was a Third Grade Body Guard" Amy Jane
- mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm" Joy Cowley (pic-
- "Goose on the Loose" Phil Roxbee Cox (picture book)
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- New Videos and DVDs
- "Painted House" (video and DVD) "Lola Montes" (video and DVD)
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Hot Topic of the Week

Did you know that in the Northern Hemisphere (yes, that includes us!) winter officially begins on Dec. 22 at 2:04 a.m. EST with the Winter Solstice? In the Southern Hemisphere, it marks the first day of summer. It is also the shortest day of the year, with daylight hours ranging from 12 hours, eight minutes at the equator to zero at the Arctic

@The Canton Public Library is compiled by Rebecca Baumgold, marketing and communications manager. The library is at 1200 S. Canton Center. For more information about library programs and services, call (734) 397-0999 or visit www.cantonpl.org.

Read Taste

THINKING ABOUT

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Thrift Store has 'deals'

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI CORRESPONDENT

Real bargain hounds already know The Salvation Army Thrift Store in Garden City has the best deals on everything from clothes for the family to costume jewelry, furniture and household odds and ends.

They come from all over the metropolitan area to see what

they can find on any given day. Like Carol Henico of Wayne, who was tickled to snatch up a Pampered Chef apple peeler/corer for \$4.

"Where can you get a deal like that?" she said.

She also found a wooden rolling pin with painted handles that, she said, adds to its value. It's the perfect gift for her sister, who happens to collect antique wooden rolling pins. She also shops the thrift store for seasonal items, like boots, for her granddaughter.

You never know what you might find in the aisles. Lamps galore, silk plants, tricycles, full-size bikes, hundreds of ties from wild to subdued, men's suits in lots of sizes, end tables. sofas, sweaters, infant and children's clothes, kitchen utensils, radios, games, small household appliances, washers and dryers - even elaborate evening

gowns for \$13. Customers have had more time to rummage through the merchandise beginning last August, when Salvation Army managers increased store hours. The doors are now open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday

through Saturday. Allison Mulvany of Westland was on the hunt recently for furniture to fill a new apartment she was planning to move

"I'm a low-income mom and I have to make the most of every dollar I have," Mulvany said.

Sandy Gordon drove in from Dearborn with her grandson, a toddler, in tow. Her mission was simple. She wanted "cheap stuff." She packed her basket with flannel sheets that were selling for \$1.

"Flannel sheets are expensive," Gordon said.

Money that Henico, Mulvany, Gordon and all the other Salvation Army shoppers spend goes to a good cause — the Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center on Middlebelt and Van Born.

"After the bills are paid, all the money goes solely to the rehab center," said Mary Vallely, manager of the Salvation Army Thrift Store in Garden City. Men battling alcohol and drug addictions are treated and live in the facility.

'They're our helpers in the store and the men on our trucks who go to pick up the donations," Vallely said.

The store sells more clothes than anything else, and the cash registers ring near Halloween, when shoppers are trying to piece together outfits.

"Sometimes antiques slip by and we do get some nice furniture," Vallely said. "Sometimes if you know somebody really needs the help and they're not able to pay what we're charging, depending on how long it's been on the floor, we can work with the people on the prices."

A lot of customers, she said, shop for the holidays.

The Salvation Army won't accept some items like exercise equipment, bowling balls, air conditioner units, built-in stoves and dishwashers, as well as old text books and encyclopedias. "They're hard for us to get rid of," Vallely said.

The Salvation Army Thrift Store accepts donations from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donors also can call (734) 729-3939 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, to have a truck come to their homes to pick up merchandise.

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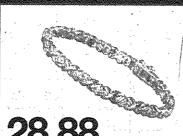


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Parents light candles to remember lost children

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

STAFF WRITER

Debra Clark stared at the Christmas tree in Kellogg Park, searching for the ornament decorated with the name of her son, Joshua Michael.

She found it near the top, then turned to her compan-

ions, smiling and relieved. "It's there," she said. "It's

right up there." It was there, among some 300 similar ornaments adorning the tree decorated by The Compassionate Friends-Livonia chapter, the group dedicated to helping grieving parents through the loss of a child. Clark, a Westland resident, was among the hundreds of parents, siblings and friends who Sunday crowded into Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth for the fifth

Memorial Day candle-lighting ceremony. Clark, who lost Joshua in

International Children's

August 2001, was attending her first candle-lighting ceremony, though she's been a member of The Compassionate Friends for a year now. She looked at the throng of people around her and nodded, hope-

"I think you have to take a moment to remember the lost children," Clark said. "I think it will be healing."

That was clearly the hope of the hundreds of people who attended the ceremony. The idea, according to TCF treasurer Gail Lafferty of Canton, is to light candles at 7 p.m. in every time zone in the world, creating a day-long wave of light memorializing lost children.

"If everyone across the world lights a candle at 7 o'clock, there'll be 24 hours of lights of love," said Lafferty, who lost her son at the age of 18 when he died in a car accident the day after Christmas in 1995. "It helps me get through Christmas."

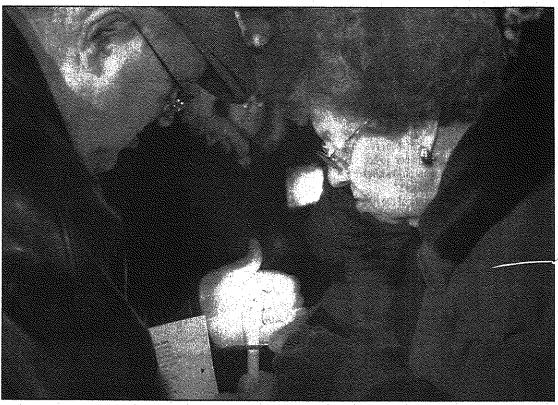
In fact, many of the people in attendance had lost their children during or near the holidays. Brigitte Carver found her son, Matthew, in his room on Christmas Eve 2002. Doctors have been unable to tell Carver, a Garden City resident, what claimed her son.

The uncertainty has made coping harder.

"I'm kind of numb," admitted Carver, who lost her mother to breast cancer in 1990 and her grandfather to brain cancer in 2000. "The fact they don't know ... I ask myself 'why' every day."

It's the kind of question that makes the holiday season diffi-cult to get through. That's exactly why the Compassionate Friends event is scheduled for the second Sunday in December: To help with the

"When your family is whole, the holidays are typically a time to look forward to, a time that draws families together,"



John and Norma Damiani, grandparents of Erika Anstett, light candles during the Compassionate Friends ceremony Sunday downtown Plymouth.

said Cathy Clough, director of the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville. "When an important part of that family dies, there's an emptiness. All you can think about is how it used to be, and the void. It can be particularly difficult for anyone, but especially parents. They just want to jump from November to January to avoid all of that."

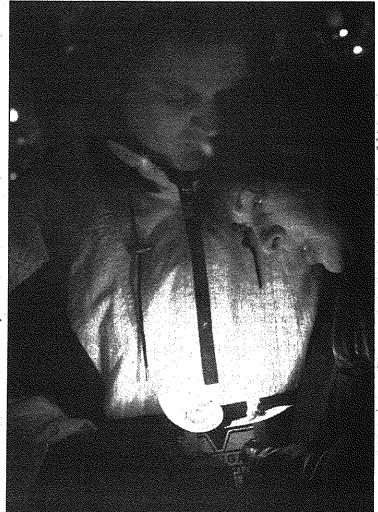
It's a void many of the parents at Sunday's ceremony are struggling to fill. Linda Houghtby of Livonia lost her 17-year-old son, Dan, in 1990 to Batten disease, a rare nervous system disorder.

"You learn to live without their physical presence," she said, "but their spiritual presence is forever with you."

Jerry Johnson of Plymouth read a poem at Sunday's ceremony. His wife, Janet, lit the primary candle. The Johnsons lost their son, Sam, five years ago from complications following a double-lung transplant while he battled leukemia.

"I want to thank you all for having the courage to come out here," Jerry Johnson told the crowd Sunday. "We all share something in common: A hole in our heart that no one can

bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 459-2700 daughter, Hayley Marie Kline, at Sunday's ceremony.



Bob and Julie Kline comfort each other in a moment of silence for their

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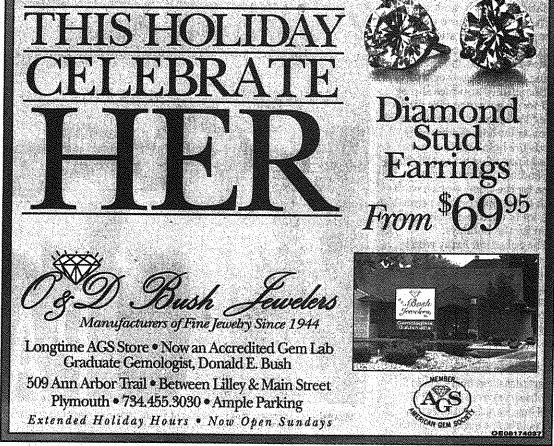
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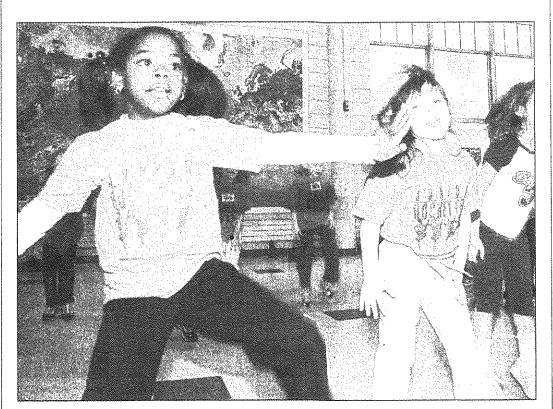
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Rock on

First-graders (from left) Cordnei Gibson, Shelby Haw and Kelly Lidcearski take part in a clinic put on by the the Salem High School Rockettes fund-raiser Saturday. More than 150 youngsters took part in the clinic, which raised money for the Rockettes' trip to Orlando, Fla., to compete in the Universal Dance Association National Dance Team Championships in Orlando, Fla. The Rockettes qualified by taking first place at the Michigan State Elite Camp this summer.

Health agency celebrates birthday during National Home Care Month

United Home Health Services, a nonprofit, Medicare-certified home health care agency, celebrated its 20th year anniversary Nov. 19 with an open house at the Canton office in conjunction with National Home Care Month.

United Home Health Services provides inhome skilled nursing, physical, occupational, and speech therapies, social work, home health aides, and nutritional services to residents of western and southern Wayne County communi-

Many Canton Chamber of Commerce members and staff officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony in honor of the anniversary. A special tribute was also presented to Dorothy Roer, who helped found United Home Health Services 20 years ago.

United Home Health Services has been in Canton for more than 13 years. Many of

employees live in Canton and surrounding

"We are proud to be a member of the Canton community and are committed to providing excellent patient care and community outreach. Caring for the sick and elderly in their homes is truly a privilege for us. The home is where the healing begins," said Gloria Bruhowzki, president.

United Home Health Services was founded in 1983 by five women, including three nurses, a social worker, and a psychiatrist. The agency provides skilled nursing and therapy services. United's team of registered nurses, physical, occupational, and speech therapists, social workers, home health aides, and dietitian have a long-standing commitment to meeting the physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs of their patients.



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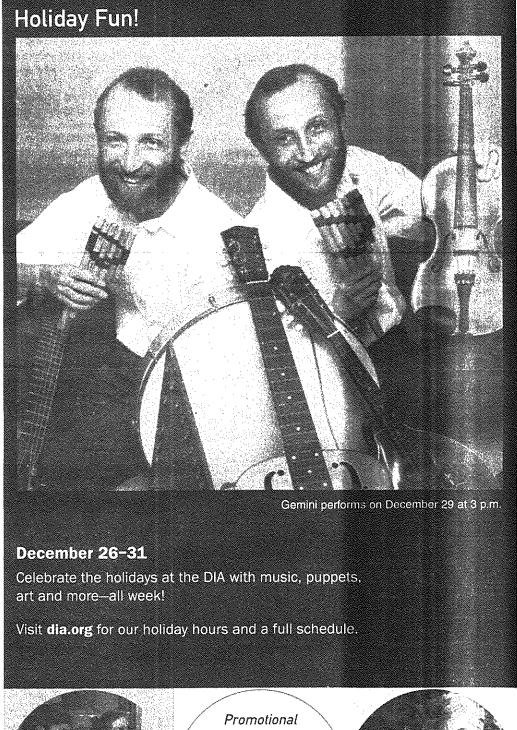
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Plymouth Township spa out of shape as bankruptcy looms

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

When developer Tom Wade and his wife/partner Cindee started building Hidden Falls Spa on Schoolcraft Road in Plymouth Township, they were outspoken in their desire to help guests leave the stress of their daily lives at the door.

Whether guests were there for the full-service salon, a swim in the rock grotto pool, Ultra-Moisturizing treatment in one of the many spa rooms or a spinning class in the expansive exercise area overlooking the

Mediterranean Gardens, the feng shui-inspired Hidden Falls hoped to debut what the Wades described as "pure escapism" when it opened three weeks ago.

Unfortunately for the 200 or so people who spent some \$1,000 apiece to join, the only escaping being done



Hidden Falls Spa included amenities such as a waterfall and river overlooking a yearround indoor/outdoor rock grotto pool.

is by the Wades, who likely will be forced to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy relief after closing the doors last week.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

A lawyer for Hidden Falls said the owners met with their lender at the end of last week and discussed the situation with it, and "came to the reality that the company has not generated anywhere near the anticipated membership levels to generate necessary revenue and is unable to pay its creditors."

"They anticipated they would have significantly more memberships than they do now," said Will Hawley of the Bingham Farms firm Lindahal, Gross Lievois. "They're looking at revenue issues. They have not been able to generate revenues even close to being able to pay the overhead for that building.

Wade, a former Livonia resident now living in Dearborn, couldn't be reached for comment.

The spa itself has been open only about three weeks, but the Wades have been trying to sell memberships since the spring, inviting the public in for tours and explaining the luxurious nature of the setting and equipment to be available.

One person who bought into the plan was Joanne Stein of Plymouth, who was impressed enough by the quality of the spa's gym that she plunked down her \$1,000 membership fee.

It turned out to be an expensive

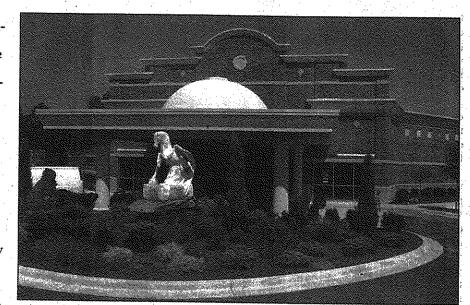
proposition for Stein and other members. Stein said she only got to work out six hours in the spa, meaning she paid \$167 per hour for the workouts.

"I am enraged," said Stein, who visited the spa at least three times before being convinced to join. "To my chagrin, they talked me into believing they'd done the market research that showed they would get a big draw."

Despite her doubts — "I don't believe people from Birmingham or even Northville would come down here for this," she said — Stein bought into the idea floated by the Wades that "there was enough money in Plymouth" to make the spa a suc-

"I've lived here for 36 years and I think this is still a pretty conservative town," said Stein, who has since resumed working out at the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. "There may be money in Plymouth, but they aren't spending it on \$120 massages. I'm really angry at myself. I bought into it after I saw the gym, because it was absolutely beautiful. For two weeks, it was heaven going there. But it was my fool's paradise."

According to Hawley, Stein and the others who paid for memberships are not at the top of the list to be repaid under bankruptcy laws, and are unlikely to see their money. The law, he explained, contains a provision which provides priority to certain classes of creditors, among them



Hidden Falls Spa, located on Schoolcraft Road east of Haggerty in Plymouth Township, closed its doors after being open less than a month.

unsecured claims of up to \$1,800 which were utilized for personal family or household use.

That's the group into which Stein and other members would fall, according to Hawley, but it might not do them any good, because secured creditors come first.

'It's possible no unsecured creditors will receive anything," Hawley said. "There's no way of knowing that until we see what the assets of the company are going to sell for."

Among those assets is the ornate building that houses Hidden Falls.

Unfortunately, according to Hawley, that building "doesn't have a lot of purposes that are readily identifiable other than as a spa."

"The bank has asked us to meet with the parties to see if there's a way to continue the operation of the business," Hawley said. "The doors are closed, there are no plans right now to reopen, and there won't be unless some type of financial arrangement is made that will allow the business to continue."

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Road construction projects eyed for 2004

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Saitz Road Paving (Canton Center to Beck) - construction to occur in the spring of 2004. Detroit Edison has relocated utility poles and are awaiting relocation of telephone and cable

🛍 Saltz Road Paving (between Ford and Warren) - Construction to occur in the spring of 2004.

■ Lotz Road Paving (between Ford and Warren) - Project to start in the spring of 2004. The portion of the water main on the east side of Lotz Road will be relocated before the road is constructed.

Lotz Road SAD (Michigan Avenue. south 1,500 feet) - Construction of the paving and drainage improvements to occur in the spring of 2004.

Michigan Avenue (Belleville to-Denton) - Construction to begin in

DBADLIGONAR

The Doll Hospital

April of 2004. Detroit Edison is relocating utility poles to the south side of Michigan Avenue before construction begins. New concrete pavement will be placed for the reconstruction of Michigan Avenue.

Warren Road (Canton Center to Morton Taylor) - The road will be widened to five lanes and the crosssection will be a 10-inch non-reinforced concrete pavement. Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2004.

Cherry Hill Road and N. Ridge Road - Construction for paving and drainage improvements will begin in the spring of 2004. Mast arms to be placed at the intersections of Cherry . Hill Road and Denton Road, Cherry Hill Road and N. Ridge Road, and Cherry Hill Road and S. Ridge Road.

■ Denton Road Extension (N. Cherry Hill Road) - construction for the future extension of Denton road to begin in the spring of 2004. Resurfacing Road Projects for 2004 (Wayne County to complete during

construction season) Canton Center Road - north to Geddes

Cherry Hill Road - at Beck - widening for Dodson School buses Sheldon Road - Canton Center to

Sheldon Sheldon Road - Ford to 0.27 miles

Palmer road - a portion Canton Center to Morton Taylor Ridge Road - County Line to Cherry

Utility Extension Projects

Water main replacements at Michigan Avenue, Sheldon Road, Lotz Road and Leopold - cleanup and restoration remain to complete proj-

ect. Sidewalk Projects

2003 Sidewalk Repair Program -Invoices were sent out on November 26, 2003 and are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2004. approximately 1,300 sidewalk invoices were sent to property owners. The following subdivisions had sidewalks

replaced in 2003: Canton Country Acres, Carriage Hills 4, 5, and 6 and remaining portions of 2 and 3, Cavalier Village North, south, and West, Forest Brook 1 and 2, Pickwick Village, Willow Trail and other miscellaneous locations,

2003 Sidewalk Gap Program - New sidewalks have been constructed on areas from Ford Road to Cherry Hill Road with cleanup and restoration to be completed. Remaining locations south of Cherry Hill will be constructed in the spring of 2004 along with

final restoration. Traffic Signals

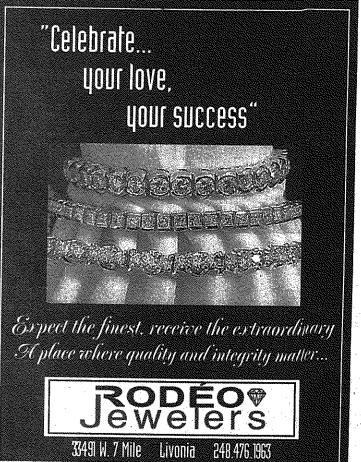
Canton Center/Hanford - Mast arms are anticipated to be n this location in the Winter of 2003. Footings have been constructed for mast arms and pedestrian signals.

Canton Center/Warren - Mast arms are anticipated to be placed at this location in the winter of 2003. Footings have been constructed for

mast arms and pedestrian signals. N. Ridge Road/Cherry Hill Road Part of Cherry Hill Road and Ridge Road construction project in the spring of 2004.

M S. Ridge Road/Cherry Hill Road ■ Denton Road/Cherry Hill Road







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Garden City chief takes over as head of airport police

Anticipating retirement in two years, Garden City Police Chief David Harvey had begun to look for a position of chief with a larger police department, knowing those jobs don't open up too frequently.

Instead, Harvey is taking an early retirement and next month will become the new chief of the Detroit

Metropolitan Airport Police.

"I hadn't interviewed in a while and thought I would just get some interview experience," Harvey said. "The airport job opened up during that time. I didn't know much about the agency, but it looked interesting. I really didn't know what my experience level would get

At 44, Harvey had been with Garden City Police since 1980. Other than part-time jobs as a teenager and three years in the Army, he'd spent his working life at the police department. After promotions to detective sergeant and lieutenant, he became chief in 1999.

"I had a couple of objectives—to stay in law enforcement, I wanted to be chief of police again and to stay in the area. I knew it would difficult to find all three," said Harvey, who will head a force more than triple the number of Garden City's sworn officers. "Being in law enforcement, I really like being chief. It's been a fantastic job—the best job I've had.

"I like the leadership aspect, developing new programs and getting the resources for the

programs."
As Garden City chief, Harvey was a strong proponent of

community policing and expects that will be part of his new job with travelers and airport staff as part of the community instead of a residential

city.

"There are things they want the (airport) police to work on. I'm sure they're bringing me from outside to evaluate things, too," Harvey said. "It's a new challenge for me. There be a lot to learn. With what the country is going through with terrorism, it excites me to work at the airport."

City Manager David Kocsis, who Harvey replaced as police chief, said the city is losing a very talented individual.

"As always happens, talented individuals get other opportunities," Kocsis said. "Not only is Dave chief, but we've been personal friends for a long time. There are a lot of stories I could tell, but they will remain stories."

Having moved with his family to Garden City from
Kentucky as a youngster,
Harvey attended Garden City
Schools and is a 1977 graduate
of Garden City East High
School.

"Dave's probably one of the last you'll see of people like (retired parks director) Tim Whitson and (retired fire chief) Mike Todd who grew up in Garden City, graduated from Garden City high schools and came back to lead city departments," Kocsis said. "That speaks well of them."

Ben Alalouf, Garden City High School associate principal, said Harvey's retirement will be a major loss to the city, especially to the schools.
"David graduated from here

"David graduated from here and had a major buy-in with the schools," Alalouf said. "We'll miss his leadership. He really pushed to make sure things went well with the schools."

While regretting Harvey's leaving the city, Alalouf said he understood what great opportunity the airport position offers for him.

"David will do a great job for them — a super job, plain and simple — with his leadership and excellent personal skills," Alalouf said.

That included serving on the Community Team dealing with juvenile offenders returning to the community and, before budget cuts reduced manpower, having School Resource Officers working in school buildings.

"There are some things I regret. Due to the economy, we didn't have enough time for the SROs to take hold, but it was certainly having an effect on the schools," said Harvey, who also regretted having to make cutbacks in Crime Prevention and the Youth Bureau.

Getting new communications technology through the 800-megahertz radio system and the Court and Law Enforcement Management Information System are accomplishments about which Harvey said he's pleased. He also mentioned training programs and improved weapons provided to Garden City officers during his tenure as chief.

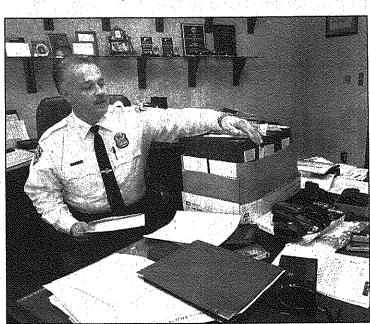
"The shooting (of Officer

Rodney Donald) at the high school highlighted how dangerous the job can be," Harvey said. "It's their training and those weapons that helped the officers survive. It's an unfortunate necessity that we need those weapons in our vehicles."

With a master's degree in public administration from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Harvey has been teaching at Madonna University, but expects to end those duties to concentrate on his new position.

"Plus I want to spend time with my family. My son (Tyler, 6) is playing hockey and I coach his baseball team," Harvey said.

A retirement party for Harvey is being planned for Jan. 31 and tickets will be available in January.



Garden City Police Chief David Harvey packs his belongings as he prepares to retire from the department. Harvey will become head of the Metro Airport police and spend more time with family.



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Bill eases skilled apprenticeship access

Legislation introduced by state Rep. Phil LaJoy giving high school students easier access to skilled trade apprenticeship programs is on its way to the governor's desk after the state Senate unanimously approved the measure Wednesday.

The LaJoy measure, House Bill 5247, is part of an overall legislative package to protect and create manufacturing jobs in Michigan and spur new business investment.

"Learning a skilled trade is an excellent way to secure a good paying job in today's global marketplace," said LaJoy (R-Canton). "Our legislative package has a two-pronged approach: create manufacturing jobs in Michigan and then make sure young people find out about these positions."

HB5247 requires Michigan schools to allow the same access to representatives of skilled trade associations to provide information to students about apprenticeship programs as they do to representatives of higher education.

"High school students need to learn about all the opportunities available to them after graduating," LaJoy said. "Apprenticeship programs allow young people to quickly enter the work force and earn an excellent living."

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Policy will help detect abuse

Because things aren't always what they appear, a new policy that requires Canton police to accompany firefighter paramedics on emergency medical runs is not only timely, but necessary.

The need to enact the policy became ever more clear after an 11-month-old boy was drowned in the family bathtub in October. The boy's mother faces murder charges. It was later discovered that paramedics had made a number of visits for the same baby, though two addresses were involved. Two different shifts of paramedics responded at various times and the infant was transported to three different hospitals, making it difficult to track the pattern of abuse.

Under the department's new policy, police will be on hand at the time of an emergency to watch and to determine if abuse has occurred. Also significant is that when dispatchers receive calls for crime, domestic violence or medical emergencies, they will automatically access a data base that will tell them if there have been prior responses to the same address or the same person.

The policy certainly increases the department's number of emergency runs. But it is well worth it. As easy as it may be to see bruises on a face or broken bones, abuse can be difficult at first to determine. Inevitably, the abuser creates a pattern and it is that the policy may help to determine soon enough to prevent more injury and tragedy.

What makes the policy timely is it came as the holidays were getting under way. The holidays can prompt depression and loneliness. They can also cause frazzled nerves at a time when families are together more, especially as colder weather forces people inside.

In enacting the policy, Public Safety Director John Santomauro pointed to the need to protect children and the elderly, both groups of whom suffer abuse at the hands of their families. As unthinkable as that may be, it happens and far too often. This policy provides police and the community with yet another necessary tool to protect those who cannot protect themselves or speak for themselves.

The community must do all it can to avoid another tragedy.

Fines are the least drivers might pay

A new statewide campaign to crack down on drunken drivers has drawn cries of "foul" from motorists who say Michigan officials are taking advantage of people already in a tough spot.

But isn't it about time?

At issue is "You Drink & Drive, You Lose," which will mobilize more than 500 Michigan law enforcement agencies in a coordinated effort to enforce the new .08 bloodalcohol limit that took effect Sept. 30. Michigan was the 44th state to adopt the lower level, a prudent move since failure to do so by Oct. 1 would result in a 2-percent loss of federal highway funds - and Michigan can ill afford to lose even a penny there.

Thinking about another cocktail before you hit the road? A first drunken driving conviction could result in any or all of the following: 93 days in jail, a \$500 fine, 350 hours of community service, six points on your driving record and a 180-day license suspension. Add to that a new \$1,000 fee for two consecutive years, the cost of legal representation and the personal economic toll of losing your driver's license.

Funds will go, in part, to local police and fire departments and the state police. While the National Motorists Association calls this a "dangerous precedent," giving ticket proceeds to the agencies whose employees put their lives on the line to get drunken drivers off the road makes perfect sense to us. Saying this new law creates pressure to issue even more tickets and raise more revenue draws attention from the basic lesson in tougher penalties: If you can't do the time, don't do the crime.

This holiday season, keep in mind these stiffer penalties for drinking and driving. Remember your body size, the amount of food you eat, medication you're taking and other factors will affect your blood alcohol level; err on

the side of caution. And consider this — according to the Michigan Annual Drunk Driving Audit, conducted by three state agencies, 8,954 persons were injured and 358 killed in 15,209 alco-

When it comes to drunken driving, a few thousands dollars is the very least you could pay.



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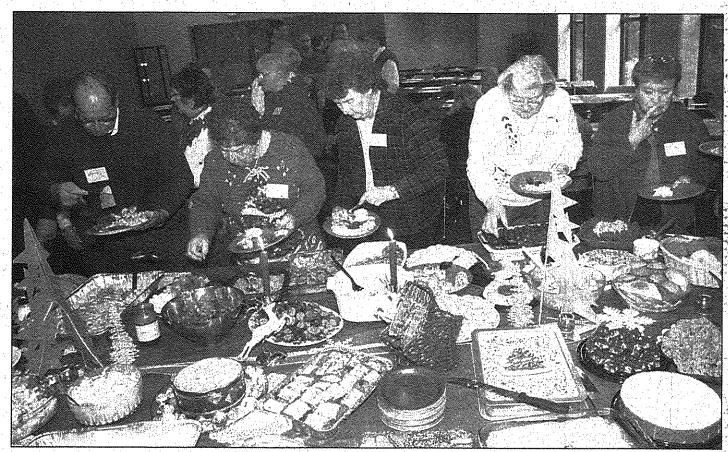
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



No doubt about it. The Canton library staff admits they couldn't do without all the volunteers who help at the library, which is at about 1.3 million circulation.

LETTERS

Scrap the lists

One of the most useless media rituals readers are compelled to endure is the practice of publishing year end lists. These lists, which are often cloaked in pseudo official formats, claim to be the supreme authority on the year's best movies, events, books and other popular culture activities.

Recently this practice has evolved into the practice of publishing lists which claim to chronicle the most dangerous cities in America.

More than often, these lists are not supported by sound data nor are they the result of criminologists and universitybased research. These tabloid driven lists actually do more harm than good and the damage these phony crime lists do to a city's image is often incalculable.

Now it appears that some unqualified expert has again anointed Detroit as the most dangerous city in America, yet when one dares to peel back the glitz and hype the premise that Detroit is a dangerous place to breathe or walk alone is pure nonsense. The truth of course is that crime is a personal event and most victims know their perpetrator.

Instead of publishing data and studies which enhance the quality of urban life it appears our media is more concerned with doom and gloom stories which play on the ugly myths of Detroit as America's most dangerous city. I reject that type of journalism and those lazy columnists who market this drivel.

Greg Thrasher West Bloomfield

Failed strategies

The theme of Bush's final years as president is becoming clearer each day: high hopes and failed strategies. I have heard Bush speak optimistically about the strength of the economy, and I have seen numerous friends and relatives lose wellpaying jobs due to layoffs. I have heard Bush speak proudly about the stimulating effect that his income tax cuts would have on the economy, while in the meantime, these changes in the income tax have had no effect on the many jobless Americans who are without even a pay-

We have watched Bush order thousands of our troops into harm's way in an effort to "rid Saddam Hussein's regime of weapons of mass destruction," while after 446 American soldiers have been buried. the only thing that we have discovered is Bush's proven ability to misinform both the American people and the brave men and women who protect our great nation.

I have no doubt that Bush shares in our goal to improve the wealth and security of all Americans. I have grave doubts, however, that four more years of a Bush presidency will get us there.

John Kuriakuz West Bloomfield

Spin will come

Peek-a-boo. Saddam Hussein's final living quarters "in freedom" were much less grandiloquent than his 20 pompously elegant castles, built with the people's

He had to be somewhat careful in his raping, butchering and killing of Iraqi citizens so that there were enough remaining to tax to finish all 20. Three hundred thousand is the figure most given for the estimated number of Iraqis which

Hussein accused of thievery and deserved exceptional ministry are considerable and death. Death only after raping, maining

and butchering.

The spin in America will now turn to America's blame in Saddam's mad mayhem. Oh, Michael Moore will think of something. And, of course, when the liberal line is developed to somehow make light of Saddam's capture, the Couries,

Sarandons, Deans and Gores will sign on. It is still difficult to believe so many among us would excuse or at least give a pass to a man who will kill 300,000 people, 300,000 of his own people. And the liberal among us still insists that Saddam did not use, did not possess, did not plan to attempt weapons of mass destruction.

Of course, he would have hesitated to do the American people any harm. Sure. Maybe some of the wail and whining will stop. We can only hope.

> **Neil Goodbred** Livonia

Where's the patriotism?

France, Germany and Russia are owed \$100 billion by Saddam Hussein's Iraq for illegal weapons, castles, bombproof shelters and perhaps hiding places for WMD. France's opposition has cost the U.S. support of the United Nations and months of delay.

Now they have the gall to demand the U.S. pay Iraq's debt to them and still share our reconstruction contracts. Hussein's French accomplices can bid low and sabotage reconstruction while on our

No company should ever make unseemly profits supplying fuel, but if our armed forces took time to evaluate bids our troops would run out of gas. Halliburton reconnoiters supplies while the military concentrates on enemies.

A proper markup for gasoline delivered to a combat zone can be determined without headlines. Dick Cheney was Halliburton's president for five years, but the company has worked alongside our military since Vietnam and has valuable wartime experience.

Armchair strategists in newsrooms and politics criticize anyone favorable to Bush or Cheney, but glorify their opponents at the cost of American lives. What happened to the patriotism of two years ago?

> Hank Borgman Farmington

Hurley remains pastor

In response to a letter printed in the Dec. 11th issue of the Farmington Observer entitled: "Good riddance" and signed by Steven Young:

I will not condescend to Mr. Young's level and address the content of the letter except to say that I disagree with his opinion.

I do, however, question the integrity of the Farmington Observer in printing a less than credible comment from a nonparishioner who seeks only to impugn His Excellency Bishop Walter A. Hurley.

I understand the Code of Ethics of Professional Journalists calls for the "support of open exchange of views, even views considered repugnant" (Code of Ethics, Society of Professional Journalists), however, this same code requires that "ethical journalists treat sources, subjects and colleagues as human beings deserving respect," or at least "show good taste."

I need not defend the personal integrity of Bishop Hurley. The fruits of his

most evident in the presence which of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish maintains in the community of Farmington.

Bishop Hurley was ordained a bishop because the Church of Detroit celebrates, honors and seeks to fully utilize his exceptional pastoral and personal quali-

I might also add that Bishop Hurley has not departed. No, he is now the regional bishop for the region in which Our Lady of Sorrows is located, In the truest sense of Canon Law (Code of Canon Law 375), Bishop Hurley remains our pastor. For this we are most grateful.

Patricia Ernst

True meaning

I wrote this poem not just for myself, but for so many others, too, who are going through tough times. I know I am not alone in just barely getting by. I lost my job two years ago tor medical reasons and am now on disability.

My mother whom I live with has been disabled since 1998. Together we try to get by living from check to check. So I had to think of something to give me a lift. This is the first Christmas I've ever had where I couldn't afford presents and all the other trimmings that go along with the holiday.

At first, I was very depressed, but I got to thinking about the true meaning of what Christmas is. So here is my poem I would like to share with you and your

Ain't got no money for presents or a

This year we will celebrate Christmas for what it should be. I will bake a small cake, write on it

Happy Birthday. It will be a message to "HIM," I'm sure

he would like it that way. To me, it seems that people concentrate to hard on buying that gift.

When you have no money, you must think of a way to give your spirit a lift. I'm glad I'm alive and have friends and

family.And there's probably already too many $people\ asking\ Jesus\ for\ money.$ It always gave me great joy to have a

present to give. This will be the first Christmas that I'll

just say a prayer: Thank you, Jesus, for giving me a life to

Happy Birthday. Vickie Brown

Garden City

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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OUOTABLE

"The defense comes in and says we'd like to have this case thrown out on a technicality. That will resolve this case. It will not resolve the situation. You could take this case to its total logical conclusion and it will still not resolve the situation."

- 35th District Judge Ron Lowe about the Canton pigeon case.

Money, politics stories proof we need another way

ometimes quite separate but related events come together.

Consider the (hardly new) subject of money and politics. A couple of weeks ago, a Michigan congressman charged he was promised \$100,000 for his son's congressional campaign if he would vote for the Medicare bill, thereby raising into full public notice the question of the subtle distinction between "contribution" and "bribe" in our political system. And last Wednesday, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a ban on "soft money" contributions to political parties from companies,

labor unions and wealthy people, arguing that too much soft money sloshing around increases the risk of corruption.

But first things first.
According to news reports,
Congressman Nick Smith (RAddison) was grumpy about the
cost of the Medicare bill, which
only barely passed the House of
Representatives after the
Republican leadership kept the
vote board open for more than
three hours to allow for armtwisting. Smith was one of the

legislators whose arm got twisted, especially since his son, Bradley, wants to be his successor when he retires after next year's election. (The record should show that Smith, post-twist, still voted against the bill.)

Power

Radio station WKZO-AM in Kalamazoo then released a tape of an interview with Smith in which he said, "They started out by offering the carrot, and they know what's important to every member, and what's important to me is my family and my kids. Bradley, my son, is running for office, and so the first offer was to give him \$100,000-plus for his campaign and endorsement by national leadership."

In a Nov. 23 newspaper column, Smith wrote, "bribes and special deals were offered to convince members to vote yes." After word got out that the Justice Department was thinking of asking questions about bribery in the House of Representatives—that's a felony, folks—Smith backtracked. He said someone outside Congress had offered his son "substantial and aggressive campaign support," and that it was "technically incorrect" to say a bribe was offered. Smith also refused to name names, all of which suggests a second round of arm-twisting was

more effective than the first.

Now, I'm no prude about this. Many years ago, I ran the Washington office of another Michigan congressman, so I'm familiar with what goes on in the hallowed halls of Congress. And over the years I've had a reasonably direct involvement with the political process. I agree wholeheartedly with the

old saying, "Money is the mother's milk of politics."
My dictionary defines a bribe as "something

My dictionary defines a bribe as "something offered or given to a person in a position of trust to influence that person's view or conduct." In this case, "conduct" means "voting one way or another." So if the House leadership offered Smith special deals and promises of support for his son's campaign to get him to vote for the Medicare bill, isn't that bribery?

If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck ... well, draw your own conclusions.

But even if you judge that the Smith case—and, trust me, there are countless cases like it every day in legislative settings all over—is not outright bribery, it certainly contributes to a growing feeling of public cynicism about the way our political system works.

Frankly, I've always been surprised so few politicians get hit with a bribery rap, whether in Lansing or Washington, especially given the enormously increased infestation of special interest money in recent years.

But who's gonna blab? Certainly not the legislators, who need at all costs to maintain working relationships with colleagues. And not the lobbyists, et al, whose careers (and employers) would be ruined if they start talking too candidly. I'm afraid they are becoming all part of the same system, linked in a web of mutual interest and collaborative exchange of access, favors, influence, money and votes. That's the reality of hardball politics in America today.

All of which explains why it took so long for Congress to pass the McCain-Feingold bill to regulate soft money contributions to politicians. To the surprise of many, the Supreme Court last week upheld most of the bill. And guess what? The follow-up story in *The New York Times* concerned how both political parties were intently figuring out how to get around the McCain-Feingold restrictions.

Before the public gets any more cynical about the political process, I suggest we cut directly to the chase and publicly fund elections in this country. No "Political Action Committees." No "soft money." No exchanges of money and campaign support for access by special interests and lobbyists.

Other well-developed democracies — Great Britain, France, the Scandinavian nations — do it that way. Public funds are allocated equally to the parties to fund election campaigns; private contributions are very strictly regulated and minimized. And, guess what: Their politics may be odd in many ways, but they are not as obviously corrupt as ours.

Phil Power is the chairman of the board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.

Ceremony helps grieving parents survive emotionally painful holiday

hey gathered in darkening Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, some old friends, others merely acquaintances who see each other only this one time a year. Many were there for the first time.

But all were drawn, like moths to a flame, by one sad, common thread: the loss of a child.

The event was International Children's Memorial Day, and The Compassionate Friends of Livonia gathered for its fifth annual candle-lighting ceremony. The candles were lit at 7 p.m., the idea being that, if candles are lit at 7 p.m. in every time zone around the world, a 24-hour wave of light is created in loving memory of children lost.

While TCF leaders were making sure all was in order, dozens of people gathered around the Christmas tree decorated in the park with ornaments bearing the names of some 300 children. Excited cries rang out as parents, siblings and friends spotted an ornament with the right name on it.

Those excited cries would inevitably — and under-standably — be followed by

tears as grieving parents continued to struggle to fill the holes left in their hearts. Jerry and Janet Johnson of Plymouth lost their son, Sam, five years ago from compli-

cations following a double-lung transplant

while he battled leukemia.

"We all share something in common," said Jerry Johnson, who read a poem during the ceremony. "A hole in our heart that no one can fill."

That may be true, but TCF-Livonia is trying to make it easier to deal with the emptiness. Hundreds of parents, family members and friends filled the park as poems were recited, songs were played and the names of more than 300 children were read from a list lovingly prepared by TCF

The candle-lighting is scheduled for the second Sunday of every December, purposely set up during the holiday season because the holidays are tough for grieving parents to survive.

"When your family is whole, the holidays are typically a time to look forward to, a time that draws families together," said Cathy Clough, director of the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville. "When an important part of that family dies, there's an emptiness. All you can think about is how it used to be, and the void. It can be

particularly difficult for anyone, but espe-

hey gathered in darkening Kellogg Park cially parents. They just want to jump from November to January to avoid all of that."

Obviously, it's a little easier emotionally with the support of family and friends, which is where TCF comes in. The ceremony in Kellogg Park helps most because it brings together people who empathize with each other, parents gathering with parents who know what each is going through.

Brigitte Carver of Garden City lost her 6-month-old son, Matthew, on Christmas Eve 2002. Matthew was a twin, so Brigitte watches his sister, now 18 months old, walking and talking and oohing and aahing at Christmas lights and has no choice but to wonder, "Why?"

"There's a sense of a huge loss, something missing," said Carver, who lost her own mother to breast cancer in 1990 and her grandfather to brain cancer in 2000. "It'll never be all better, but I think just being around people who understand what you go through on an everyday basis helps."

Clearly, that was the case Sunday. The Compassionate Friends is made up of nothing but people who understand, people who care. The ornaments that filled the tree were made by volunteers working at St. Timothy's Church in Livonia. The people who organized Sunday's ceremony volunteered to be out in the harsh cold December night to make sure everyone had a candle, everyone had support, and every-

And, while the local chapter of The Compassionate Friends is technically located in Livonia, that's a bit misleading. The chapter leader is from Westland, the treasurer lives in Canton and the editor of the chapter's newsletter is a woman from

Brighton.
Grieving parents from all over this part of the state came together Sunday in Plymouth. The hundreds who attended Sunday's ceremony huddled together against the cold, in large groups and small, cupping candles in their hands to protect the flame from the wind.

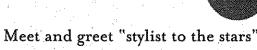
They basked in the warmth of a bond formed out of grief, strengthened by empathy, and dedicated to the preservation of the memory of children lost.

Compassionate Friends meets the first Wednesday of the month at St. Timothy's Church in Livonia. To help, or for more information, go to the Web site at www.tcflivonia.com or call (734) 981-4528.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the *Plymouth Observer* and has five children. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

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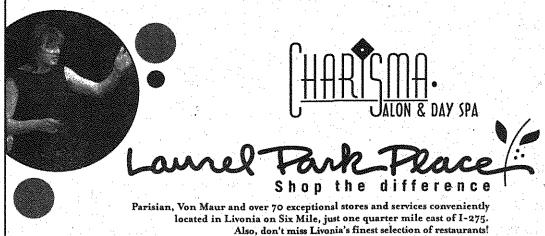
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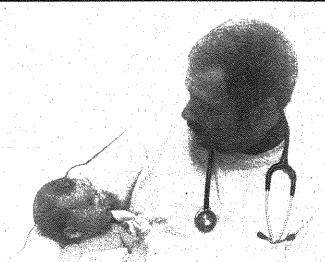


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Charities look for help during holiday season

Looking for a way to offer a helping hand to those in need this holiday season?

The United Way has distributed a list of area non-profit organizations that are in need of everything from school supplies and computers to baby clothes and bed linens.

AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center, 27578 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150; (734)425-8060. Contact: Brenda Underwood. Provides free pregnancy crisis services, support and adoption information.

In need of: diapers (sizes 1-6), wipes, formula, gift certificates, indoor paint, desk chairs, folding chairs, LCD projector, volunteers.

Community Care Services, 26184 West Outer Drive, Lincoln Park, MI 48146; (313)389-7525. Contact: Tom Ferstle. Serves those with severe substance abuse and their families.

In need of: winter coats, shoes, jeans, educational toys, bicycles, gift certificates for food, clothing and books, volunteers.

■ Community Hospice and Palliative Care, 32932 Warren Ave., Suite 100, Westland, MI 48185; (734)522-4244. Contact: Heather Hayman. Offers comprehensive, compassionate care to the terminally ill and their families.

In need of: baby monitors, adult diapers, extra large blood pressure cuff, pulse oximetry machine, patient alarms, restaurant certificates, paper trimmer, volunteers.

First Step, 44567 Pinetree Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170-3840; (734)416-1111. Provides assistance to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and educates the com-

In need of: new underwear and socks (women and children), diapers (all sizes), phone cards, gift certificates (discount stores, supermarkets and utilities).

Michigan Council on Crime & Delinquency, 19500 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, MI 48152; (248)888-1194. Contact: Florida Andrews. Provides case management for children and families of incarcerated individuals.

In need of: clothing (children and moms), toys (Christmas and birthday), gift certificates, beds, computer equipment and volunteers.

Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services Inc., 29200 Vassar Boulevard, Suite 200, Livonia, MI 48152; (248)473-2990. Contact: Collene Dabish. Promotes and protects the rights of people with disabilities by providing information, technical assistance, advocacy and legal representation.

In need of: large conference table, monitors, office chairs, locking file cabinets, bookcases, printer, fax machine and copier.

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O No passes

Personalized Nursing LIGHT House Inc., 575 South Main Street, Suite 6, Plymouth, MI 48170-1708; (734)451-7800. Contact: Joseph Paliwoda. Provides substance abuse counseling program.

In need of: winter coats, large color TV, passenger van, volunteers.

Salvation Army -Wayne Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy, Westland, MI 48186; (734)722-3660. Contact: Captain Charles Yockey. Provides a wide range of social services as part of an international, religious, charitable organization.

In need of: sports equipment, karaoke machine, sewing machine, day camp vouchers, food and clothing vouchers, TV/VCR combo units, computer software, computers, volun-

Senior Alliance -Area

Agency of Aging, 3850 Second Street, Suite 201, Wayne, MI 48184; (734)722-2830. Contact: Chris Kenzie. Provides a wide range of services to older adults.

In need of: grab bars (16inch and 18-inch), gift certificates (grocery store, discount store with pharmacy, home health care agency, medical equipment.

■ Vista Maria, 20651 West Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights, MI 48127-2622; (313)271-3050, ext. 186. Contact: Kimberly Holmes. Provides continuum of gender responsive treatment, education and care for girls dealing with abuse and neglect.

In need of: socks, slippers, scarves, hats, gloves, journals, stationary, personal care products (shampoo, conditioner, soap, shower gel etc.), combs, brushes, volunteers.

■ Wayne County Health Department, 33030 Van Born, Wavne, MI 48184; (734)727-7006. Contact: Anahid Kulwicki. Provides services to promote good health and prevent disease.

In need of: gift certificates for food, chairs, couch, file cabinets, desks, tables, bookcases, office equipment, volunteers.

■ Westland Youth Assistance Program, 36701 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185; (734)467-7904. Contact: Ronaele Bowman. Provides a juvenile diversion and prevention program offering free services to Westland youth.

In need of: children's books. parenting books, tickets/passes for sporting and recreational events, back-to-school and holiday shopping, restaurant coupons, volunteers.

Big Brothers-Big Sisters of

Metro Detroit, 23007 Greenfield, Suite 430, Southfield, MI 48075; (248) 569-0600, ext. 227, Ruselda Johnson. Strengthens children in need through one-to-one relationships with volunteer mentors.

In need of: Tickets for sporting events, camcorder, TV and VCR, office and reception room furniture, professional display boards, electric stapler, laptop computers and printers, LCD projectors, volunteer mentors.

Boys & Girls Club off Southeastern Michigan, 26777 Halsted Rd., Suite 100, Farmington Hills MI 48331-3560; (248) 473-1400. Provides a positive environment for youth members to become responsible, selfreliant, caring adults.

In need of: Craft kits, table games, sports equipment, mat boards, digital cameras, computer grade photo paper, LCD projector, portable public

address system, volunteers. Boys and Girls Republic, 28000 W. Nine Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48336; (248) 476-9550 ext. 335.

Noreen Haggerty. Helps at-risk youth become contributing members of soci-

In need of: Art supplies, board games, sporting goods, movie passes, tickets for sporting events, garden tools.

A free copy of the United Way Community Services' 2003/2004 Wish List, sponsored by WJBK-FOX 2 and Gardner-White Furniture, is available at any Gardner-White store or by calling **United Way Community** Services Tel-Help at (313)226-9442, For an online copy, click on www.unitedway.org.

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BAD SANTA (R) 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45 FRI/SAT LS 11:45 THE LIKE (PG-13) FAUSAT LS 11:35

GOTHIXA (R) 9:35 ELF (PG) FRI 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 SAT-TUE 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

MATRIX REVOLUTIONS (R) 1:10, 3:55, 6:40 ROTHER BEAR (G) 11:50, 1:40, 3:30, 5:20

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Harris saluted

Former Schoolcraft College point-guard Rulon Harris (Detroit Mumford) was named Horizon League Player of the Week after leading the University of Detroit Mercy men's basketball team to a pair of victories last week.

The 6-foot-1 guard leads the Titans in scoring averaging 12.8 points per game. He scored 17 points and had five steals in 72-68 win over Toledo and had 11 points and five assists in the 63-54 victory over Chicago State. He also scored a teamhigh 18 points in a 68-42 loss to Wisconsin.

Bryant honored

Schoolcraft College's Liz DiPonio (Livonia Stevenson), Arielle Bryant (Canton) and Andrea Wright (Flint Powers Catholic) recently were named to the NJCAA All-America women's soccer team after leading the Lady Ocelots to an 18-1 season and a third-place finish in the NJCAA Division I tournament.

DiPonio and Wright were also selected to the 2003 National Soccer Coaches Association of America/adidas All-America team.

Schoolcraft's Michele Kitta (Brighton), DiPonio and Wright, the Region 12 Player of the Year, also were named to the **NSCAA/adidas Central** All-Region team.

The All-Region 12 team consisted of Sarah Plymale, Kitta, Erica Ahrens, Bryant, DiPonio and Wright.

Oaks win league

The Canton Oaks Premier U-10 soccer team finished first in the Select Division 1 of the Western Suburban Soccer League (WSSL).

The team finished with the most goals for and least goals against in



their division. They also finished first at the Global Soccer Tournament, held at Oakland University last

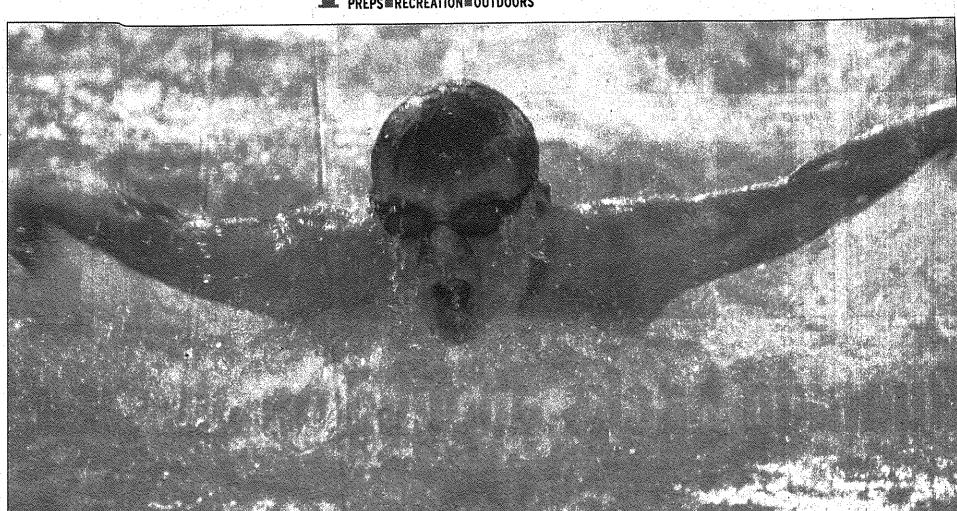
Team members are: Nathan Bergeson, Christian Bryant, Shea Chatfield, Austin Covert, Brandon Duschl, Robby Galanty, Evan Lewandowski, Joshua Maxam, Steven Murphy, Jacob Pascarella, Mikey Payne, Tyler Stewart, Ethan Walsh & Tyler Winningham. The team is coached and trained by Jim Lemley and Bob

Pascarella. Cheerleaders shine

Two of the three Salem cheerleading squads that competed at the UCA Regionals, hosted by Salem Saturday, finished first in their divisions and will travel to Disney World in Orlando in February for the national competition.

The all-girl varsity team and the Salem co-ed squad both earned trips to nationals. The all-girl junior varsity finished second against tough competition.

STOPIS



Canton's 200-yard butterfly relay, anchored by Nick Landis (above), finished second at the WLAA Relays in 1:52.01. The Chiefs also placed second overall.

Canton 2nd, Salem 4th at relays

Granted: A relays meet. which features such things as crescendo freestyle (four swimmers swimming different distances) and 400-yard individual medley (each guy doing all four strokes), at the beginning of the season won't mean much in March.

Also, winning the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays guarantees nothing. That's why Livonia Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker wasn't reading much into it, eventhough his team finished first with relative ease, scoring 254 points to runner-up Canton's 216. See meet results inside.

Still, it's hard to ignore that Salem placed fourth. Salem,

which has won 11-consecutive WLAA championships. Salem, which has placed in the state's top six for the last three sea-

Salem placing fourth? That must've surprised most folks.

"Me, too," admitted Rocks coach Chuck Olson. "But like I said before (the season), we've got a lot of work to do."

The Spartans and Northville each won three relays, and Walled Lake Central was first in two. Salem's only first-place finish came in the diving relay, with Andrew Murawski and John Lundy.

"It's beneficial to win any meet," said Shoemaker. "But you can't let the team think it's the end of the season.

"I mean, this meet doesn't really mean that much. There's still a long way to go."

Stevenson started nicely, winning the first relay: the 400-yard medley, with Jeff Pauza, Jason Anderson, Garrett Baringhaus and Travis Hatt. The Spartans also captured top honors in the 200 butterfly relay, with Steve Hewlewski, Mike Kloote, Caius Boboescu and Steve Bruestle, and the 200 free relay, with Matt Massman, Kloote, Pete Bublitz and Josh Pappalardo.

"We have a lot of depth," said Shoemaker. "But a lot of things could happen between now and March. It's motivational,

but it's still the beginning of the season."

However, it became apparent making nothing out of Salem's fourth-place finish would be difficult to do. Shoemaker admitted as much when he said, "I think all four teams will be in the race for the league title."

That's not the way it's been for most of the last decade. The Rocks have dominated. They won last season's league meet by nearly 200 points.

But 12 scorers from that meet have graduated, including Ben Dzialo, who finished second in two individual events at the state finals.

"We had some very good

swims (Saturday)," said Olson, but have one bad swim in a relay and it's not good. Have two bad swims and it's really

was about to relinquish anything just yet. "You never know," he said. "That's why you swim 'em. "We don't have to give (the

Not that the Salem coach

league title) up until February. We're the defending champs until then." And their plan remains to

make it 12-in-a-row. "We're trying to not let that happen," retorted Shoemaker.

One thing Saturday's meet did show — the WLAA final won't be a runaway this season.

Gordon saluted as area's top coach

Chuck Gordon is going out on his terms.

During his 27-year reign as Westland John Glenn football coach, Gordon posted a 211-64 record, had 23 straight winning seasons and went to the playoffs 15 times since 1985, including one state championship game (1993) and three other semifinal appearances.

Gordon, who announced his retirement last month, entered the 2003 season minus two returning All-Area wide receivers (to transfer) and his starting quarterback



Coach, John Glenn

persevered, turning in one of his best coaching efforts and guiding Glenn to a 9-2 season.

He credits the players' work ethic for the team's success "This team was easy to coach," said Gordon, who was

(out with a See All-Area football team. Page B2. broken foot) for

> named 2003 Observerland Coach of the Year. "It's one of the most improved I've had as far as the start of two-adays until the end of the sea-

"It was the way coaching is supposed to be. We had no chemistry problems, no problems in school. All I had to do is coach, and it's not always like that."

Gordon, a former assistant under Lloyd Carr and Gerry

Lutri, took over the Glenn

varsity program in 1977. He also recognizes that his success in 2003 could not have come without the contributions of his assistant coaches - Todd DeLuca, Matt Howton, Mike Henry, Tim Hardin, Kal DeLuca, Paul Merandi, Billy Marra

and Steve Emeigh. "They're just a great bunch of guys, good friends, great coaches, and they're great with kids," Gordon said. "If you're going to take a picture, I consider them to be the staff of the year."

Chiefs must find answers to succeed

The season-opener for Canton's volleyball team, the Allen Park Invitational last Saturday, produced the type of results Canton coach Steve Anderson could have expected.

CANTON PREVIEW

"Not bad news, not good news" was how he described the Chiefs' performance. "We did a lot of things wrong, but by the end of the day I started to see things get better."

A lot of things are going to have to go right for Canton to match last season's 20-14-7 record, which included a second-place finish in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division and a fourth at the WLAA Tournament.

At Allen Park, the Chiefs were 1-1-2 in their four pool-play matches and failed to advance to bracket play by a total of four points. They lost their first match to Marshall, 15-10, 15-10; split with both Jackson (11-15, 15-7) and Rochester (7-15, 15-10); and beat Melvindale 15-2, 15-7.

The win over Melvindale showed a lot to Anderson. "Our serving, we have to do well, because we're not a big team on the outside," the Canton coach said.

"If we have a game plan and we execute it, we can isolate a key play-

Against Melvindale, Molly Conlon had nine serves in the first set; she totaled seven aces and one error. The second set was a bit tougher, but the Chiefs stuck to their game plan and

Anderson called the play at middle

PLEASE SEE CANTON, B6

Rebuilt Rocks even better

Four starters from last season's 27-11 team are gone. In fact, there are a bunch of new faces on the Salem volleyball team, including four freshmen on a roster of 11 players.

So it's going to be a long, hard season for the Rocks – right? Don't count on it.

Despite the loss of all-conference outside hitter Mandy Bradley, defensive specialist Maggie Tudor, middle blocker (and team MVP) Nicole Genrich and defensive specialist Macy Lepper, Salem will be good. Very good, according to coach Tom

"We're better than last year," Teeters said. "Definitely. We're better now than we were at our peak last year."

Last year, the Rocks were pretty good against everyone but Livonia Churchill. The Chargers beat Salem three times, including in the Western Lakes Activities Association semifinals and the state district

But the improvement of several

SALEM PREVIEW

the first

three

games.

the set-

Gordon

backs,

Despite

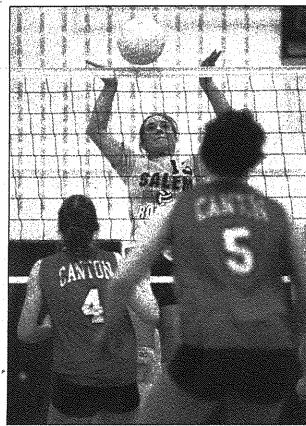
returnees and the promise shown by the freshmen has made Teeters highly optimistic.

The most promising of the returnees are 5-foot-4 senior setter Jordan Falcusan and 5-9 junior outside hitter/middle blocker Ellen "We're really strong in setting,"

said Teeters of his third-year starter. "Jordan covers a lot of ground. And Ellen has really improved on the outside."

Canale will combine with freshman Therese Coppiellie, who stands 5-11, to give Salem something they've never had, at least during Teeter's tenure: two good outside hitters.

"The last time we had hitters as good as this on the outside was when (Amanda) Suder was a senior," he said, referring to Madonna



The improvement of outside hitter Ellen Canale is one reason for PLEASE SEE SALEM, B6 optimism at Salem. There are others.



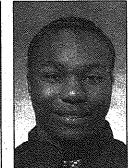
Corey Reid Thurston



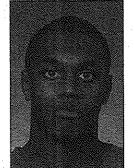
Derek Brooks Redford CC



Matt Smitherman John Glenn



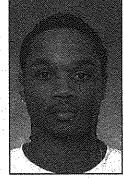
T.J. Dillard **Wayne Memorial**



Travis McKinney Canton



Brian Bradley Salem



Chaz Bryant Thurston



Alex Jachym John Glenn



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Jason Horton Redford CC



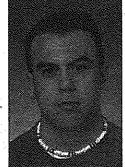
Jeff Sartor Canton



Josiah Swartz John Glenn



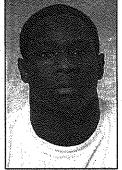
Frank Pointer Clarenceville



Ray Eisbrenner Canton



Kenny Smith St. Katharine



Darnell Tyson Redford CC



Brandon Westbrook John Glenn



Quan Bailey Liv. Franklin



Franz Gatzke Canton

Running backs abound on all-area team

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Corey Reid, QB, Red. Thurston: Reid was an early commitment to the University of Colorado, then spent the season showing why the Buffaloes recruited him. While he's headed to Boulder as a defensive back, Reid, a 5-11, 190-pound senior, had some of the best offensive numbers around.

He rushed for 768 yards and 11 touchdowns with a 6.1 yard per carry average. He was 69-for-125 passing for 1,394 yards with 13 touchdowns.

His defensive play wasn't too shabby either with 19 tackles, 14 breakups, two tackles-for-loss and two interceptions.

'He's been a standout for three years," said Thurston coach Bob Snell of his all-Mega Blue selection. "He's a kid who really worked as hard as anyone I've ever had to make himself a great football player. He's spent countless hours in the weight room. He's got God-given ability but a lot of

his success is from his hard work." Derek Brooks, RB, Redford CC: Out of all the great players who have every played for Catholic Central, Brooks ranks among the best. Out of all the great running backs, Brooks ranks as the best - at least according

to coach Tom Mach. He's run for more than 4.600 yards in three years, scored 50 touchdowns and has always run against the best teams in the state," said Mach, whose team has won three-straight state titles with Brooks starting on the varsity. "He is a quality young man who is humble and thankful for

his talents. Those talents are plentiful. This year, the 5-11, 180-pound senior rush for a net 1,674 yards, averaging 7.7 vards per carry. He also had 19 touchdowns on the season, caught four passes and threw another. On defense, the speedy Brooks - an All-Catholic and All-State selection - also

had two interceptions. Matt Smitherman, RB, Westland Glenn: The 5-8, 172-pound senior earned high accolades as he gained 2,094 yards in 300 carries and scored

321 touchdowns. Smitherman's brother Dan holds the single season rushing record at Glenn with 2,225 yards (in 2000).

"Matt's motor runs all the time, he's high energy both in practice and in games," Glenn coach Chuck Gordon said of the All-Western Lakes choice. "He has the ability to make people miss, but he also runs hard with good speed. He had a tremendous senior

T.J. Dillard, RB, Wayne: The 6-1, 205pound senior helped the Zebras earn their first playoff berth since 1992 after gaining 1,450 yards and scoring 23 touchdowns. He averaged 4.8 yards per carry.

"T,J. made some big runs and first downs when we desperately need to seal games," Wayne coach Craig Hnatuk said of the All-WLAA pick, "He got the hard yards when it wasn't there."

Travis McKinney, RB, Canton: On a team that lost just one game all season (to Catholic Central in the state tournament), McKinney proved to be both steady and spectacular - and very difficult to bring down.

The 5-7, 165-pound senior rushed for 1,009 yards on 144 attempts, averaging 7.0 yards per carry, and he caught another six passes for 144

yards, 24 yards per catch. McKinnev scored 15 touchdowns rushing and another three on receptions - all of which earned him all-WLAA honors.

Kenny Smith, RB, St. Katharine: Even though he played on a small team like St. Katharine/Bishop Borgess, Smith displayed a big-time

The 6-2, 210-pound senior rushed for 1,342 yards in eight games and had 43 touchdowns, in several games, he literally was the offense - in one game, he carried the ball 34 of the team's 39 offensive plays, had 200plus yards in two games and had 301 yards against Detroit Urban Lutheran.

"We had a lot of injuries early," said coach Werner Blakely of his All-Catholic selection, "and he had to carry us as far as he could. He's a very talented player."

Brian Bradley, WR, Salem: A threeyear varsity starter, Bradley, a senior, caught more than 30 passes for 800 yards this season. He was also valued as a member of the special teams, returning kickoffs for more than 500 vards - one for 98 yards and a touchdown against Walled Lake Central and punts for 200 more. He scored six touchdowns this season.

Bradley's offensive ability earned him all-WLAA accolades.

Chaz Bryant, WR, Red. Thurston: Bryant, an All-Mega Blue selection, was the top receiver for the Eagles. He caught 34 passes - just shy of half the team's completions on the year - for 661 yards. He averaged 19.4 yards per catch and had three touchdowns.

On defense, Bryant - a 6-0, 170pound defensive back - had 42 tack-

"He's a very athletic kid who has great hands," said Snell, "He's a receiver who is a tough kid with a lot of courage. He'll take a hit to make a play. He's strong, fast, has good hands and has great toughness.

Alex Jachym, TE, Westland Glenn: The 6-3, 220-pound senior started for two years on both sides of the ball for

the Rockets. "Alex is a heck of a blocker," Gordon said. "He was also a good defensive player. We put him to the short side where you don't get a lot of chances, but he's good against the run."

Jeff Sartor, OL, Canton: A senior offensive quard, Sartor wasn't that big (5-9, 205 pounds) but he was certainly effective.

The Chiefs were perfect in the WLAA and set a school record for victories in a season, winning 11-straight. They did this with an overpowering offense that produced two 1,000-yard running backs and three runners that collectively scored 42 touchdowns. Sartor's ability earned him all-WLAA honors:

Josiah Swartz, OL, Westland Glenn: The 6-2, 233-pound senior was a twoway tackle for the Rockets.

He earned All-Western Lakes honors on offense.

'Josiah was stuck behind some seniors last year, but once he got the opportunity to play he really improved," Gordon said.

Frank Pointer, OL, Clarenceville: The 5-11, 292-pound senior was a three-year starter on defense and a two-year starter on offense who helped the Trojans to three straight Metro Conference titles and three playoff berths.

2003 ALL-OBSERVER FOOTBALL TEAM FIRST TEAM OFFENSE Quarterback

Corey Reid, 5-11, 190, Sr. Red. Thurston Running backs Derek Brooks, 6-0, 185, Sr., Redford CC Matt Smitherman, 5-8, 172, Sr., John Glenn

T.J. Dillard, 6-1, 205, Sr., Wayne. Travis McKinney, 5-9, 165, Sr., Canton Kenny Smith, 6-2, 210, Sr., St. Katharine Wide recelvers

Brian Bradley, 6-1, 175, Sr., Salem Chaz Bryant, 6-0, 170, Sr., Red. Thurston Tight end Alex Jachym, 6-3, 220, Sr., John Glenn

Offensive line

Jeff Sartor, 5-9, 210, Sr., Canton Josian Swartz, 6-2, 233, Sr., John Glenn Ray Eisbrenner, 5-10, 210, Sr., Canton Frank Pointer, 5-11, 292, Sr., Clarenceville FIRST TEAM DEFENSE Linemen

Darnell Tyson, 5-9, 195, Sr., Redford CC Brandon Westbrook, 6-0, 190, Sr., Glenn Quan Bailey, 5-11, 306, Sr., Liv, Franklin Jason Horton, 5-10, 225, Sr., Redford CC Franz Gatzke, 5-7, 175, Sr., Canton Linebackers

Rondell Black, 6-3, 220, Sr., Wayne Jeff Hollandsworth, 6-0, 205, Sr., Steven. Eric Vojtkofsky, 6-3, 215, Jr., Redford CC Daran Matthews, 6-1, 205, Sr., Thurston Chris Cappelli, 6-0, 185, Sr., Garden City Jeff Fioretti, 5-10, 201 Clarenceville

Backs Devin Thomas, 6-2, 190, Sr., Canton Justin Grohoski, 6-2, 180, Sr, Liv. Churchill Specialist-Kicker Jason Gingell, 5-10, 181, Sr., Redford CC SECOND TEAM OFFENSE Quarterback

Chris Drabicki, 6-0, 180, Sr., Salem Running backs Bruno Shkreli, 5-10, 174, Jr., C'ville Ian Iler, 5-9, 175, Jr., Redford Union Chuck Schumacher, 5-11, 180, Jr., Canton

Jon Bunzeluk, 6-0, 180, Sr., Liv. Churchill Wide receiver Keith Hearns, 6-1, 179, Sr., Liv. Stevenson Tight ends

Phil Taylor, 6-0, 190, Sr., Redford Union Justin Venegoni, 6-2, 175, Sr., Wayne Linemen Dan Skotak, 6-4, 275, Sr., Salem

Ryan Danescu, 6-2, 270, Sr., Redford CC

Pointer, being recruited by the University of Buffalo, was the Metro Conference's tri-Defensive Player of the Year. This season he finished with 63 tackles, 19 for loss, caused and recovered two fumbles, and recorded 12.5 sacks. He also had one rushing

'He led our team in knockdown blocks," Clarenceville coach Greg Hudkins said. "He was much improved there from last year.

"His numbers defensively were better last year because this season he was seeing double and triple teams,"

Ray Eisbrenner, OL, Canton: The Chiefs had the best offense in the WLAA, and it started with an offensive line that had to be rebuilt this season due to graduations. Eisbrenner, a senior and team captain, was a building block on that line.

And what a block. The Chiefs produced points against everyone, and Eisbrenner, a 5-11, 210-pound tackle, helped pave the way. Two Canton backs ran for more than 1,000 yards and 26 TDs; a third had more than 600 yards and 16 scores. For that, Eisbrenner got all-division honors.

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE Darnell Tyson, End, Redford CC: Tvson was a first-teamer at linebacker

last season and smoothly made the

Mark Lukowski, 5-11, 210 Sr., Red. Thurston Justin Keatts, 6-3, 250, Sr., Garden City Marcus Jordan, 6-4, 235, Sr., Thurston SECOND TEAM DEFENSE Lineman Blake Kavanaugh, 5-10, 225, Sr., Red. CC

Ends Kyle Smith, 6-3, 210, Sr., Redford CC Kelvin Brown, 6-4, 190, Jr., St. Katharine Marc Simpson, Sr., 6-1, 189, Clarenceville

Linebackers Jemere Gainer, 6-2, 211, So., Clarenceville Dan Haller, 5-6, 180, Sr., Luth. Westland Jake Powers, 6-2, 215, Jr., Canton Eric Schambers, 5-11, 195, Sr., John Glenn

Backs Alex Wojcik, 6-0, 180, Sr., Redford CC Derek Ward, Sr., 6-0, 170, Liv. Franklin J.R. Fells, 6-1, 185, Sr., Wayne Drew Amble, 6-0, 190, Sr., Redford CC Steve Campbell, 6-1, 175, Sr., Canton

COACH OF THE YEAR Chuck Gordon, Westland John Glenn HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Justin Logan. Jon Kolodziejczak, Manuel Schubert, Mike Manoogian, Pat McFalls, Erik George, Phil Rocker; Franklin: Andy Lynett, Ian Givens, Matt Parker, Bert Smith, Toby Zurenko, Dave McCall; Stevenson: Brian Alpert, Mike Hamilton, Greg Georvassilis, Dave King, Rob Lowes, Kevin Domingo, Eric Harms, Steve Bronsted, Brandon Smith; Canton: Lester Booker, Matt Pave, Jeff Hudson, Chris Snider; John Glenn: Bob Varley, Nathan Beard, Terry Pittman, Sam Williams, Jake Fairchild, Brian Peterson, John Adams, Rece Cox, Vinnie DeLuca; Wayne: Brad Wilson, Ryan Flatt, Justin Bowle, Chris Wells, Jeremy Jamnick; Clarenceville: Mike Liss, Russell Spencer, Kenny Hall, Ailen Garrant, Matt Saylor; Lutheran Westland: Andy Hess, Neal Kemp, Ian McLaughlin, Doug Haller, Jameson Higgins; Redford Thurston; Chase Waterstradt; Redford Union: John Gourlay, Matt Salley, Ernest Latham; Salem: Mike Kerul, Alex Enright, Jeff Lake; Garden City: Emilio Perez, Dustin Mattson Zach Riddle; St. Katharine/ Bishop Borgess: Justin Bailey, Isaiah Knight, Matt Wulff, Michael Knight; Redford CC: Dave Thomas, Sean Shahrestani, Kevin Horal, Dave Herberholz, Matt Pastula, John Morraso, John Smart, Ryan Connor.

move to the defensive end spot, earning All-Catholic honors.

The 5-9, 195-pound senior had 10 sacks, 85 tackles and 24 first hits. He also had 486 yards rushing and added six touchdowns. "He was a big play maker on

defense," said Mach. "He had the ability to make the big play just when we needed it. He was a great two-way player and excelled as a tough running back." Jason Horton, Line, Redford CC:

Horton was a solid player for the Shamrocks, earning All-Catholic honors as a defensive tackle. The 6-2, 225-pound senior had 70 tackles on defense, with 20 first hits and four sacks.

"Jason was one of the quickest defensive tackles that we've ever had at CC," said Mach. "He was very tough and physically active, causing opponents great problems trying to block him. I know he made our offensive line better by going against us every

Brandon Westbrook, Line, Westland Glenn: The 6-foot, 190-pound senior nose guard served as the Rockets' captain this season as Glenn finished the season at 9-2.

"He's just a great kid, he's all of the field and his motor runs all the time," Gordon said.

Quan Bailey, Line, Liv. Franklin: The

5-11, 306-pound senior tackle made 50 tackles this season for the Patriots, including 40 solo stops. He also had three sacked, forced and recovered two fumbles and scored one touchdown. "There were not a lot of teams suc-

Chris Kelbert said of the All-WLAA pick. "The teams that ran on us did things, but couldn't run up the middle. He was doubled- and triple-teamed." Franz Gatzke, Line, Canton: Take a look at Gatzke, a senior team captain,

cessful blocking him," Franklin coach

and it would be difficult to guess what position he played. One of the last choices would be defensive line. After all, he stands 5-6 and 170 pounds. And yet Gatzke helped the Chiefs win 11 straight games by making 74

tackles, including a team-best eight quarterback sacks, and he recovered three fumbles. Gatzke's strong performance on the defensive line garnered him an all-conference berth. Rondell Black, LB, Wayne: The 6-3, 220-pound senior stood out at outside

linebacker where he finished with 10 tackles for loss and four sacks. "Rondell had an outstanding senior year, he did everything we asked of him," Hnatuk said. "A lot of teams

avoided running at him. Teams usually went the other way. "He's a college caliber player who has the grades. He's possibly a Division II prospect, maybe even a

Division I-AA. Jeff Hollandsworth, LB, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot, 205-pound senior linebacker had a total of 135 tackles, including 15 for loss and four sacks.

Hollandsworth also played on the offensive line and in the backfield.

"Jeff was the proverbial sideline-tosideline defensive standout on our team," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said. "He has tremendous natural football instincts, and has combined this with a great dedication to the weight room over the past several

"He has an old-fashioned selflessness that allowed him to give up playing in the backfield to fill in when

needed on the offensive line." Eric Vojtkofsky, LB, Redford CC: Vojtkofsky, a junior, was a solid player on both sides of the ball for CC. As a linebacker, the 6-2, 215-pound junior had 85 tackles with 22 first hits. As a fullback, he had 652 yards with 13 touchdowns and a 6,2 yard per carry average.

"Eric was a great two-way player for us who really came into his own this season," said Mach of his All-Catholic selection. "He's a running fullback and a hard-hitting linebacker. I'm extremely glad he has another year remaining at CC."

Darran Matthews, LB, Red. Thurston: Matthews, a 6-1, 205-pound senior, is a solid Division 1 prospect on both sides of the ball. On offense, he gained 680 yards rushing with an 8.0 yard per carry average to go with 14 touchdowns. He had 550 yards receiving on 20 catches and scored eight touchdowns.

Defensively, the All-Mega Blue linebacker was just as solid with 135 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, four sacks and an interception.

"For a first-year linebacker to get 135 tackles is amazing," said Snell. "He's got one of the best combinations of speed and strength that I've

ever seen. He's an extremely versatile player. He doesn't run to people, he runs them over. His acceleration through contact is outstanding." Chris Cappelli, LB, Garden City:

Cappelli was one of the best players in the Mega White this season. The 6-0, 185-pound senior was a two-way starter at tight end and linebacker and was the team's defensive MVP. He had 63 tackles with 25 assists,

and recovered two fumbles, while catching six passes on offense for 92 yards and a touchdown. "He's a great leader who led by example," said GC coach Mike Salter.

"He played injured with a broken thumb and he didn't let that hamper him. He's one of those hardworking guys who's great to coach." Jeff Fioretti, LB, Clarenceville: The 5-11, 201-pound senior earned the

respect of his peers by excelling both as a running back and linebacker for the 9-2 Trojans. He was named Offensive MVP of the Metro Conference after scoring nine TDs and gaining 1.194 yards in 151 carries (7.9 yard average) in just eight

games before going down with a knee injury, which prevented him from suiting up for the postseason. Defensively, Fioretti made 40 tack-

ies from his linebacker spot and inter

cepted two passes. "Jeff was the straw who stirred the drink," Hudkins said of the repeat first-team All-Area performer. "We were a whole different team offensively and defensively with him in the lineup. Jeff's not a vocal kid, but the kids fed off him because he led by

example." - Devin Thomas, DB, Canton: Thomas, a 6-2, 200-pound senior captain, could hurt an opponent in a variety of ways.

And he did. As a cornerback, Thomas was difficult to beat, making six interceptions and returning one for a touchdown. That earned him all-WLAA honors.

As a running back, he gained 605 yards, averaging more than seven yards a carry, and scored 16 touchdowns. And as a receiver, he caught 18 passes for 417 yards (more than 23 yards a reception) for three more

scores. He was also a dangerous kick returner for the conference champs.

Justin Grohoski, DB, Liv. Churchill: The 6-2, 180-pound senior wore two hats for the Chargers, starting both at quarterback and in the defensive backfield en route to All-WLAA honors. "Justin is an excellent player, the

first guy you see when you look at our team," Churchill coach John Filiatraut said, "Defensively he makes plays all over the field. He's fast and a tough competitor. "He had his best moments in the

fourth quarter when you had to make a play. He has both the flash and the grit. Justin's a tough kid who was asked to do a lot for us." Jason Gingell, Specialist-Kicker.

Redford CC: Gingell was simply the area's best kicker. He converted 63 of 66 extra points, had eight field goals on the season and put 90 percent of his kickoffs into the end zone. "Jason was a very good and very

consistent kicker for us," said Mach. "I would place him in the top two percent of all of our kickers at CC. He believes in his ability and is able to hit the big kick when needed. He has good mental toughness."



Rondell Black Wayne Memorial



Jeff Hollandsworth Liv. Stevenson



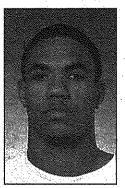
Eric Vojtkofsky Redford CC -



Thurston



Chris Cappelli Garden City



Devin Thomas Canton



Justin Grohoski Liv. Churchill



Jeff Fioretti Clarenceville



Jason Gingell Redford CC

The season: so far, so good for Chiefs, Rocks

Both Canton's and Salem's wrestling teams have progressed nicely thus far this season, according to their coaches.

Canton wrestled Southgate Anderson and Harper Woods Notre Dame in a double-dual meet last Thursday at Anderson, beating Notre Dame 55-18 and losing to Anderson 54-24.

Four Chiefs were 2-0 on the day: Ryan Schnettler at 103 pounds, Sam Santilli at 112, Corey Phillips at 130 and Ryan Webb at 135. One of Webb's wins came against Matt Brodich of Notre Dame, a state qualifier last season. Webb won the match, 6-0.

Canton will host its 10-team tournament, starting at 9 a.m. Saturday. Among the opposing teams are Salem, Dearborn, Dearborn Fordson, Allen Park, New Boston Huron, Ann Arbor Huron, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Livonia Stevenson.

Last Saturday, the Rocks sent their 'B' team, or junior varsity, to the 12-team Harper Woods Lutheran East Tournament, and they came

away with a sixth-place finish.

Best performances for Salem came from Val Gui, who was second in the 135-pound division with a 2-1 record, getting pinned by Evan Sherburn of Birmingham Seaholm in 2:26 in the final; Jeremy Bullard at 152, finishing 4-1 on the day and placing third; and Nick Morency at 171, who was 4-1 for the tournament and finished third.

The previous week (Dec. 6) at the Lake Orion Round-Robin Invitational, the Rocks' varsity finished third, behind Holt and South Lyon, with a 3-2 match record.

Jeremy Walker was 4-0 in his matches at heavyweight; Ryan Tooley was 2-0 at 145; Alex Smith at 215, Zack Vaughn at 135, Will Schultz at 152, and Brian Danville at 160 were all 4-1. The Rocks' JV was at the Ann Arbor Pioneer JV Tournament on Dec. 6, and Matt Stott and Kevin Mlynek were both 4-0 and division winners. Jake Bennett was 3-1, placing second, and Ryan Holloway and Dave Makerjee each placed fourth with 3-2

SALEM TOURNAMENT Dec. 13 at Salem HS

Dec. 13 at Salem HS

Team finishes: 1. Belleville, 243 points; 2.

Adrian, 220; 3. Salem, 187 1/2; 4. Ann Arbor
Huron, 151 1/2; 5. Canton. 123 1/2; 6. Novi, 116
1/2: 7. Wyandotte Roosevelt. 100

Division results

103 pounds - Championship: Andrew Novak (AAH) pinned Kody Elliot (A), 5:13; Consolation: John Cole (WR) def, Nate Orris (B), 13-4.

(a), 112 - Championship: Alan Marvin (A) pinned Jeremy Szekley (AAH), 1:26: Consolation: Jeremy Boggess (WR) pinned Nick Lichorobriec (N), 1:44.

119 – Championship: Ryan Stump (S) def. Justin Williams (B), 8-4; Consolation: Ed Mohr (A) pinned Matt Keffler (independent), 5:14.

125 - Championship: Tim Davis (B) def. Josh Szekley (AAH), 14-3; Consolation: Mike Dendrinos (S) def. Eric Hansen (N). 130 - Championship: Corey Phillips (C) def.

Dave Burr (S), 3-0; Consolation: Scott Fysh (Sindependent) def, Marvin Belanger (B), 7-3. 135 – Championship: Ryan Webb (C) def. Alex Baum (N), 13-0; Consolation: Zack Vaughn

(S) def. Richard Chapman (B), 10-1, 140 - Championship: Greg Rochon (B) pinned Konrad Konsitzke (C), 3:35; Consolation: [Ge. Kirhy (WP) pinned Russe

Consolation: Joe Kirby (WR) pinned Ryan Olson (S), 2:15. 145 – Championship: Joe Caudill (B) def. Ed

Underwood (A), 4-0; Consolation; Joe Haemer (AAH) def. Steve Hosey (C), 7-3.

152 - Championship: Justin Vanetten (A) def. Will Schultz (S), 8-4; Consolation; James

def. Will Schultz (S), 8-4; Consolation; James French (WR) pinned Brett Bvcilli (N), 2:40. 160 – Championship: John Bakewell (A) def. A.J. Morris (N), 13-10; Consolation: Brian

Danville (S) def. Jason Wiesnewski (B), 15-5, 171 - Championship: Jeff McCumber (B) def. Lance Thornsberry (AAH), 3-1; Consolation: Roy Varo (independent) pinned Jim Kolle (A), 3:35.

189 – Championship: Chris Watson (B) def. Cody Walters (A), 11-2; Consolation: Jordan Schaefer (S) def. Ryan Hatfield (AAH), 7-6.

215 - Championship: Alex Marteli (B) def. Charles Williams (A), 10-8; Consolation: Andrew Kristofik (N) pinned Zack Frascarelli (AAH), 3:02.

Heavyweight - Championship: Jeremy Walker (S) def. Garrett Eastridge (AAH), 5-3; Consolation: Brandon Kilby (A) def. Phil Toupin (B), 14-6.

Salem, Canton look good at Invitational

For both Salem and Canton, the outcome of the Salem Wrestling Invitational Saturday was satisfying.

Neither won: That honor was grabbed by Belleville with 243 points. Adrian was second with 220 and Salem took third with 187 1/2. Canton placed fifth with 123 1/2. See tournament results.

But that didn't damper either coaches' appraisal. "It's not too bad," said Salem's Greg Woochuk of the Rocks' performance thus far this season. "I'm pleasantly surprised. I'm happy with the results."

"Only wrestled eight guys out of 14 (weight divisions), and all eight placed," said Canton's Casey Randolph. "We wrestled very well. I'm definitely starting to see some improvement.

"Yeah, I'm very happy. We're starting to see the kids get better, they're starting to finish things we do in the room at practice."

Both Salem and Canton had two individual winners. The Rocks had two wrestlers lose in the finals and Canton had one. The Rocks' champions were Ryan Stump at 119, beating Justin Williams of Belleville 8-4 in the final, and Jeremy Walker at heavyweight, edging Garrett Eastridge of Ann Arbor Huron, 5-3 in the title match.

Canton's victories came from Corey Phillips at 130, a 3-0 victor over Salem's Dave Burr in the final, and from Ryan Webb at 135, a 13-0 triumph over Alex Baum of Novi in the final.

The Chiefs' other finalist was Konrad Konsitzka at 140; he was pinned by Belleville's Greg Rochon at 3:35 of the title match. Salem's Will Schultz was beaten by Adrian's Justin Vanetten, 8-4 in the final at 152.

WRESTLING RANKINGS

OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING RANKINGS (as of Dec. 14)

TEAM RANKINGS: 1. Redford Catholic Central; 2. Livonia Churchill; 3. Wayne Memorial; 4. Westland John Glenn; 5. Redford Union.

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS

103 pounds: 1. Sean Dong, Redford Catholic Central; 2. Steve Ludke, Garden City; 3. Sean Weaver, Livonia Stevenson; 4. Jesse Gardocki, Livonia Franklin; 5. Alex Fowler, Livonia Churchill.

112: 1. Jason Crothers, Wayne Memorial; 2. Nick Poole, Canton; 3. Dan Rabe, Stevenson; 4. Andrew Nader, Redford CC; 5. Ken Nelson, Redford Union.

119: 1. Matt Steintrager, Redford CC; 2. Ryan Stump, Salem; 3. Justin Smith, Churchill; 4. Justin Keatts, Wayne; 5. Rob Carmichael, RU.

125: 1. Kris Felice, Churchill; 2. Saif Naber, Westland John Glenn; 3. Alex York, Stevenson; 4. Josh Wischmeyer, RU; 5. Jacob Sutter, Lutheran Westland.

130: 1. Jim Moore, RU; 2. Corey Phillips, Canton; 3. Mike Dendrinos, Salem; 4. Saul Fuentes, Stevenson; 5. Robert Bytner, Lutheran Westland.

135: 1. Tim Hammer, Wayne; 2. Ryan Webb, Canton; 3. Darryl Rice, John Glenn; 4. Dave Burr, Salem; 5. Chris

140: 1. John Gourlay, RU; 2. Jamie

Murray, Churchill; 3. Rex Fugaban, Wayne; 4. Zak Vaughan, Salem; Dave Watkins, Franklin.

145: 1. Rece Cox, John Glenn; 2. Chris McGlone, Wayne; 3. Ali Ismail, Clarenceville; 4. Steve Hosey, Canton; 5. Danny Clement, Churchill.

152: 1. Dario Mainella, Stevenson; 2. Brad Bartram, Redford CC; 3. Daron Cruickshank, John Glenn; 4. Ben Adams, Churchill; 5. Will Schultz,

Salem. 160: 1. Trevor Stewart, Redford CC; 2. Emilio Perez, Garden City; 3. Brandon Noble, Lutheran Westland; 4. Josh

Loar, RU; 5. Doug Fellows, Stevenson. 171: 1. Manuel Schubert, Churchill; 2. Bryan Longton, Wayne; 3. Scott Schwarzlose, Redford CC; 4. Jeremy

Sparks, Garden City; 5. Dan Haller, Lutheran Westland.

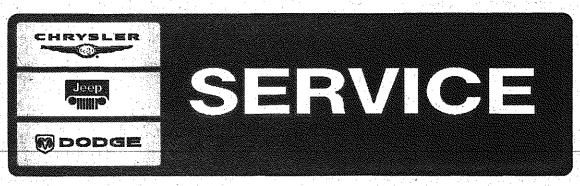
189: 1. Jake Fairchild, John Glenn; 2 Neal Kemp, Lutheran Westland; 3. Joe Bargerstock, Stevenson; 4. R.J. Ramsey, Wayne; 5. Jordan Schaefer, Salem.

215: 1. Eric Schambers, John Glenn;
2. Jeremy Henderson, Salem; 3. Eric
Vojtkofsky, Redford CC; 4, Hafeez
Oureshi, Churchill; 5. Jacob Galindez,
Lutheran Westland.

275: 1. Jeremy Walker, Salem; 2. Pat Draheim, Churchill; 3. John Morasso, Redford CC; 4. Jameson Higgins, Lutheran Westland; 5. Bill Dobosy, RU.

Note: The Observerland mat rankings are compiled by coaches Jim Gourlay (RU) and Dave Chiola (Franklin).

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Rocks get bounced by Saline Late free throws beat Madonna For a quarter, at least, Salem was in it Christian Academy had to travel to Taylor team. "They weren't intimidated." Tuesday at Saline.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

Then the Rocks fell apart, losing their third-straight basketball game, 73-32. Saline improved to 3-0.

"They can go deep into their bench, they're solid, they rebound well and they run well," said Salem coach Bob Brodie, his team now 0-3. "They really get up and down the floor, and they score in transition."

And yet, after one quarter Salem led 16-15. "We made good decisions with the ball, and we took care of it," said Brodie.

That didn't last, however. In the second quarter, the Rocks were outscored 20-6 and trailed 35-22 at halftime. They were outpointed in the second half, 38-10.

Dominici paced the Hornets with 15 points. Clark and Tieman added 12 each. Salem got nine points from Samad

Mohammad and seven from Brian Bradley. Dominique Washington, in his first game back after suffering a leg injury, had six

Canton Agape 60, Franklin Road 34: Charlie Henry led the way for the victorious Wolverines, pouring in a game-high 27 points coupled with eight steals. Jordan Napier followed with 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Brett Yost managed 14 points in a losing effort for Novi Franklin Road Christian.

"We started creating a lot of turnovers by pressing in the second half," said Agape coach Chuck Henry, whose Wolverines led 28-22 at halftime. "Easy fast-break points helped our cause."

Agape improves to (3-0) overall with the victory while Franklin Road falls to (3-1). PCA 62, Light and Life 51: Plymouth

Light and Life Tuesday without its point guard, Steve Sumner, who was out with the

Which means there's no telling how much damage the Eagles might have done with

Dan Carty, moving over from forward to the point, poured in 23 points (including 10of-13 free throws) and dished out seven assists to lead PCA to its second-straight

Ben Baloga contributed 19 points, Aaron Ciborowski got 11 points and 14 rebounds, and Lew Tripp finished with eight points and 12 boards.

Nate Ryan led Light and Life with 17 points. Aaron Layne and Wendell Claxton had 15 apiece.

We had real good composure tonight," said PCA coach Doug Taylor, his team 2-0 for the season (Light and Life is 0-2), "especially in the second half. They made a bit of a run at us and we handled it."

The Eagles led 18-12 after one quarter and 36-27 at the half. The Crusaders trailed 50-36 after three periods.

PCA had just one basket in the fourth quarter, but converted 10-of-14 at the line. For the game, the Eagles were 14-of-20 (70 percent) at the stripe.

Gabriel Richard 54, Plymouth 46: An 11-point first-half deficit proved too big for Plymouth to overcome Tuesday against visiting Riverview Gabriel Richard.

The loss left the Wildcats at 1-1. Gabriel Richard is 3-0.

"My guys played hard," said Plymouth coach Dave Wagoner of his team of freshmen and sophomores taking on a varsity

A lack of consistent scoring hurt the Wildcats the most. A.J. Davey and D.J. Coleman led them with eight points apiece.

Mike Seneski was best for the Pioneers with 16 ints.

"We played a zone defense most of the game, but in the fourth quarter we decided if we're going to try and win this thing we'll have to play man-to-man," Van Wagoner

The switch helped somewhat. After being outscored 25-14 in the first half and still trailing 41-28 after three quarters, Plymouth outscored Gabriel Richard 18-13 in the fourth period. But the Wildcats never got closer than six.

Redford CC 66, Lathrup 65: Redford Catholic Central let Southfield Lathrup back into Saturday night's game in the Walt Keener-Official Tip-Off Classic at Ferndale High, but Jim Cash shut the door on the Chargers by hitting a pair of free throws with 3.2 seconds left to give CC the one-point win.

"We went up by six at the beginning of the fourth quarter, but they came back and tied it up," said CC coach Rick Coratti as his team evened its record at 1-1. "They went up with nine seconds left on a layup, then Jimmy had a chance to drive to the hoop and was

Senior Dan Waterstradt, a 6-foot-11 center who got in early foul trouble, led CC with 23 points and 12 rebounds. Cash had 13 points. Kyle Smith added 10 and Derek Brooks finished with nine.

Jason Jones paced Lathrup (1-1) with 23 points, while Kassel James had 14 points and Sidel Moore added 12.

WOMEN'S HOOP

A high-powered comeback in the final 3:35 went for naught for Madonna University's women's basketball team, which lost to Indiana Wesleyan 66-64 Saturday at Madonna.

The Crusaders fell to 2-9 with the loss. Wesleyan is 12-

A layup by Jackie Pingston, who scored a career-high 23 points for Madonna - on 9of-10 shooting from the floor (including 3-of-4 three-pointers) - with :37 to play knotted the game at 62-all.

The Wildcats scored again to go up by two, but Madonna's Sarah Thomson converted two free throws with :08 to play to tie it once again at 64-apiece.

But Thomson then fouled Aimee Owsley as she drove to the basket with :02 remaining, and the Wesleyan forward hit both foul shots to score her only two points of the game and give the Wildcats their game-winning

margin.

In addition to her 23 points, Pingston also had four rebounds and four steals. Thomson totaled 19 points and 10 boards, and Stephanie Childs had nine points, four boards, three assists and two steals.

Liz Howerth had 27 points, 12 rebounds and five steals for the Wildcats, with Mandy Topp adding 12 points and Jennie Martin nine.

Madonna outrebounded Wesleyan, 37-30, but had 19 turnovers compared to the Wildcats' 14.

The Crusaders trailed by as many as 14 points in the game - the Wildcats led 32-28 at the half - and were down by seven with 3:35 left to play when they started their come-

On Friday, Madonna hosts Taylor University at 7 p.m.

Crusaders outscore Marygrove, 89-73

Four players scored in double figures Tuesday as the Madonna University men's basketball team turned back visiting Marygrove, 89-73.

Both teams are 5-8 on the

Noel Emenhiser led the Crusaders with 23 points, while Dan Kurtinaitis added 22 points and 12 assists.

Forward John Bennett (Livonia Churchill) also chipped in with 18 points and nine rebounds, while guard Joe Kofahl finished with 17 points. Chris Behrns had nine.

Dennis Foster paced the Mustangs with 28 points, while DeAundray Armstrong chipped in with 15. Jason Watkins contributed 13.

MU led 49-35 at the half.

The Crusaders shot 57.4 percent from the floor (35-of-61) and outrebounded Marygrove,

Bethel 103, Madonna 88: The magic ran out in the second half for Madonna University.

The Crusaders led host Bethel College 55-51 at halftime of the final of the Gates Automotive Classic, played Saturday in Mishawaka, Ind. But their shooting touch disappeared in the second half and the Pilots took control, outscoring them 52-33 to roll to the win.

Bethel is 12-2. Madonna's Noel Emenhiserand Dan Kurtinaitis were both named to the all-tournament

But in Saturday's title game, it was John Bennett (from Livonia Churchill) who sparked the Crusaders with 26 points, converting 11-of-15 floor shots (4-of-7 on three-pointers). Bennett also had seven rebounds.

Emenhiser was dangerous too, scoring 24 points (also 4-of-7 on threes), dishing out four assists and making two steals. Kurtinaitis, Chris Behrns, Joe Kofahl and Justin Reinig netted eight points apiece, Kurtinaitis also collecting 13 assists.

Six of the seven Pilots who scored in the game reached double figures, led by Jake Parker with 24 points. Andrew Laird Ricky Gooden and Kyle Sears got 16 each, Josh Weimer scored 15 and Thomas Jackson had 14.

Bethel dominated in nearly every phase of the game. Although the Crusaders shot superbly from the floor in the first half, making 21-of-35 shots (60 percent), they could sustain it in the second, when they hit 12-of-30 (40 percent). For the game, they were 33-of-65 (50.8 percent), including 12-of-22 on triples (54.5 percent).

However, the Pilots were nearly as accurate. They made 34-of-72 shots (47.2 percent), 14-of-27 threes (51.9 percent) and 21-of-24 free throws (87.5 percent; Madonna was 10-of-10).

They also outrebounded Madonna, 42-30, and had just 14 turnovers while forcing 20 by for Oshawa. Brandon the Crusaders.

Whalers end road trip by tying Oshawa, 1-1

The Plymouth Whalers completed their three-game road trip Sunday with a frustrating 1-1 tie against the Oshawa Generals in an Ontario Hockey League match-up.

The Whalers had the early lead, getting a goal from Ryan Ramsay at 6:52 of the second period. Sean Thompson and Gino Pisellini assisted. The goal was Ramsay's 12th of the

With Paul Drew turning in another stellar performance in goal. Plymouth clung to that lead until, with just over a minute left in regulation, the Generals pulled their goalie for an extra attacker.

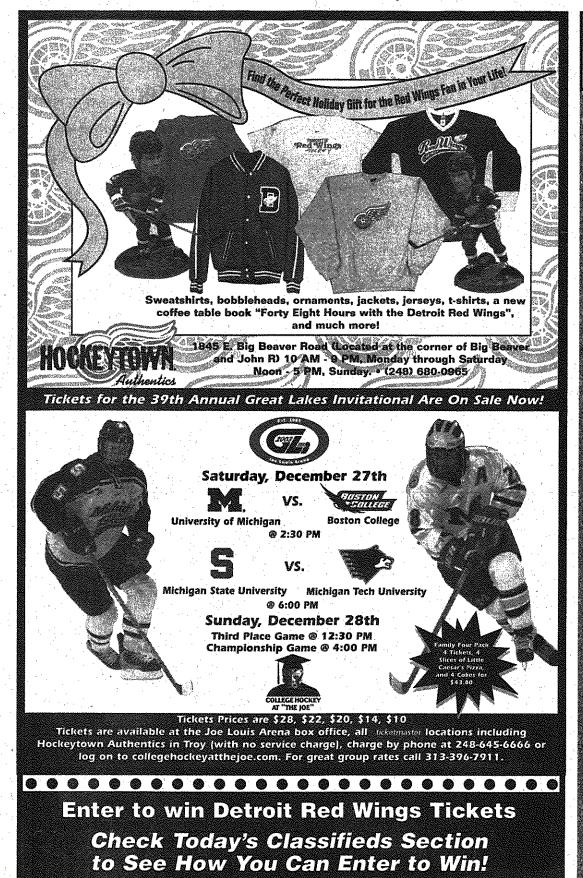
It proved to be a good move

OHL HOCKEY

McBride put one into the back of the net with just :59 left in the game to knot it at 1all. Fred Hatziioannou and Ryan Bowness assisted.

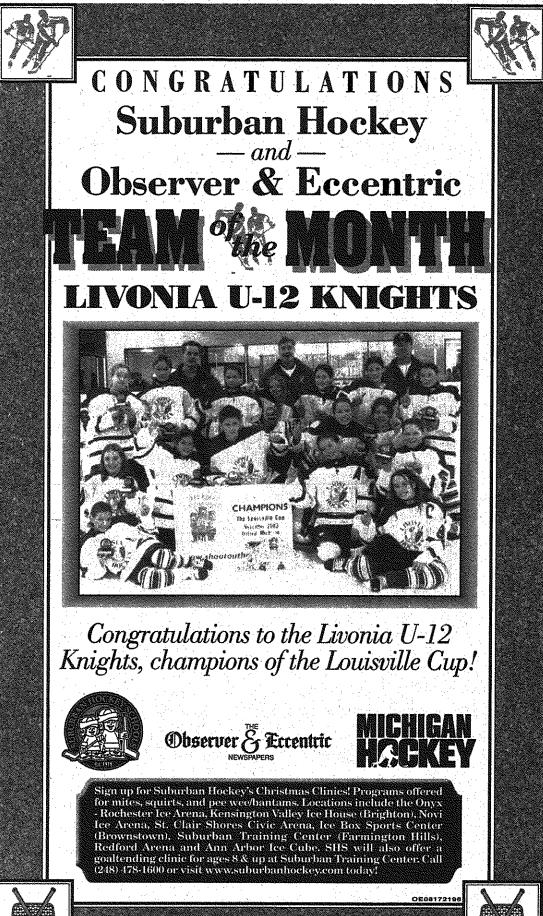
That would prove to be the end of the scoring. Oshawa had six power-play chances, but could cash in on none of them. Drew, named the game's top star, had 38 saves; the Generals' Ryan Gibb had

The tie kept the Whalers atop the OHL's West Division with 38 points (15-9-6-2). Oshawa is tied for first in the East Division at 11-15-6-1 (29 points).



Observer & Eccentric

NEWSPAPERS



Penguins are unbeaten in last 3 games

A wild third period, during which six goals were scored, didn't sidetrack the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team from a victory over Farmington Hills Mercy Tuesday at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena,

The 7-3 triumph gave the Penguins a 2-0-1 record over their last three games and evened their season mark at 4-4-1. Last Saturday, they shutout Bloomfield Hills 6-0 at Hazel Park Arena; on Dec. 11, they tied Port Huron 4-4 in Port Huron.

PCS is now idle until Jan. 6 when it hosts Walled Lake at Arctic Edge.

In the win over Mercy Tuesday, Olivia Pennebaker scored three goals and Kelli Bargowski and Stephanie Murray got two goals apiece. The Penguins got two scores from Pennebaker to lead 2-0 after one period and added another from Bargowski in the second to make it 3-0 before Mercy answered, trimming the PCS lead to 3-1 after two periods.

Goals by Pennebaker and Murray increased the Penguins' lead to 5-1 2:27 into the third period. The Marlins scored twice in a :35 span to pull to within 5-3, but PCS closed it out after that, getting goals from Murray and Bargowski in the last 1:42.

HOCKEY

Jessica Rzetelny and Lisa Ealy each contributed two assists for the Penguins.

In the win over Bloomfield Hills Saturday, the scoring was quite different as six different players scored for PCS. Pennebaker had a goal and two assists, and Jenn Emmert and Murray had a goal and an assist each to lead the Penguins.

Rzetelney, Sharla Gillespie and Ashley Bradley also scored goals for PCS, and Amanda Rowley collected three assists.

At Port Huron last Thursday, Murray was the offensive standout, scoring the Penguins first three goals and then assisting on the game-tying goal, netted by Kristina Creith with just 1:12 left in the third period. An eight-minute overtime period produced nothing.

Gillespie also assisted on Creith's tying goal. Perkovich contributed two assists in the game.

Salem 10, W.L. Northern 2: In a Western Lakes Activities Association boys hockey game Saturday at Lakeland Arena, John Maurer and Kyle Emmons each scored two goals to lead the Rocks to a victory.

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Dec. 18

Brighton at Canton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 19

Ply. Christian at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.

Salem at Howell, 7 p.m.

A.A. Huron at Redford CC, 8 p.m.

(Livonia City Tourney at Churchill)

Stevenson vs. Clarenceville, 5:30 p.m.

Franklin vs. Churchill, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Thursday, Dec. 18

Mercy vs. P-C-S (Arctic Edge), 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 19

Franklin vs. W.L. Central (Edgar), 6 p.m.

L'Anse Creuse vs. Canton (Arctic Edge), 8 p.m.

(MIHL Showcase at Trenton)

Churchill vs. B.H. Cranbrook, 4 p.m.

Salem improved to 4-4-1 with the win.

Steven Tripp added a goal and two assists for the Rocks, who led 3-0 after one period and 5-2 after two. A 5-0 third period concluded their rout.

Andrew Majorana chipped in with a goal and an assist, and John Peterson, Brooks Belhart, Matt Van Hoet, Aaron Cheesman and Ted Panaretos each scored a goal. Ray Kraft was in goal for the Rocks; he stopped 13

Country Day 7, Canton 2: The Chiefs lost their fifth-straight Saturday against Detroit Country Day, a non-league game played at Birmingham Ice Arena.

Injuries are just killing us," said first-year coach Jim Wheaton. "We lost another player tonight."

That brings the Canton injury total to four players currently out of action. Against the Yellowjackets, Reece McCabe and Nate Oliver scored goals.

P.H. Northern 6, CC 4: For the early part of the game, Redford Catholic Central took the play to Port Huron Northern.

But CC couldn't stop the four-goal performance by the Huskies' Antwan Hall and wound up falling to Northern at Compuware Arena

Saturday night.

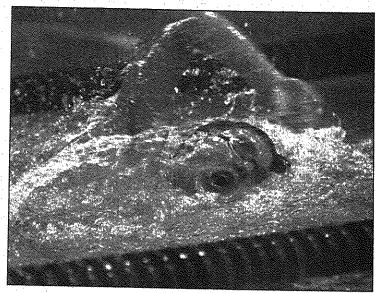
"They are a really good team," said CC coach Todd Johnson as his team dropped to 3-4 overall and 2-1 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League. "They had three guys with Junior A experience who came back to play high school hockey.

'We played good in the first period and outshot them, 14-3. I thought it was even in the second period and we just didn't work hard in the third period."

Hall put the Huskies (5-1, 1-1 MIHL) on the board first. but Pete Pfeffer tied it up midway through the first period from Harrison Niemann and TJ Quatlander. Northern scored again in the first, but John Horal tied it later in the period with Quatlander and Chris New

assisting. CC went up 3-2 in the second period as Jimmy Burns scored from Niemann and Pfeffer, but Hall tied it at 3all. The Shamrocks made it 4-3 with three minutes left in the period as the same three combined for another goal.

But Northern tied it three minutes into the period, and Hall made it 5-4 with 10 minutes to play, then added an. empty-net goal with 35 seconds left.



Matt Jurcak swam on Salem's 500-yard crescendo relay, which placed fifth. The Rocks were fourth in the meet.

WLAA RELAY RESULTS

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION RELAY RESULTS Dec. 13 at Salem HS

Team standings: 1. Livonia Stevenson. 254 points; 2. Canton, 216; 3. Northville, 203; 4. Salem, 200; 5. Wayne Memorial. 164; 6. Walled Lake Central, 128; 7. Walled Lake Western, 120; 8. Livonia Churchill, 106; 9. Walled Lake Northern, 95; 10. Livonia Franklin, 68; 11. Westland John Glenn, 52; 12. Plymouth, 50. Relay results

400-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Jeff Pauzia, Jason Anderson, Garrett Baringhaus, Travis Hatt), 4:00.03; 2. Salem, 4:03.16; 3. Western, 4:03.20; 4. Canton, 4:04.34; 5. Northville, 4:05.28; 6. Central, 4:06.69; 7. John Glenn, 4:50.31; 8. Northern, 4:58.55; 9. Wayne, 5:01.52; 10. Churchill, 5:22.29; 11. Franklin, 5:58.60; 12. Plymouth, disqualified.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Jordan Champine, Sam Manees, Jim Sattles, Joe Le), 3:33.75; 2. Stevenson, 3:36.95; 3. Salem, 3:41.42; 4. Wayne, 3:54.32; 5. Northville, 3:54.32; 6. Northern, 4:01.97; 7. Western, 4:02.73; 8. Churchill, 4:21.12; 9. Central, 4:21.93; 10. John Glenn, 4:41.84; 11. Franklin, 5:57.10.

200 breaststroke relay: 1. Central (Ryan Booms, Jeff Rolowski, Scott Stevens, Brian Gurta), 2:04.99; 2. Wayne, 2:11.28; 3. Western, 2:11.76; 4. Canton, 2:16.27; 5. Churchill, 2:18.43; 6. Stevenson, 2:18.74; 7. Salem, 2:25.68; 8. Franklin. 2:25.76; 9. John Glenn, 2:29.61; 10. Northern, 2:34.43; 11. Northville, 2:53.30.

200 backstroke relay: 1. Northville (Chris Keady, Joe Hogan, Hunter Schwartz, Brad Farris), 1:48.87; 2. Stevenson, 1:51.41; 3. Wayne, 1:55.18; 4. Canton, 2:01.27; 5. Churchill, 2:04.75; 6. Salem, 2:06.30; 7. Central, 2:22.83; 8. John Glenn, 2:35.75; 9. Plymouth, 2:52.18: 10. Northern, 2:59.38; 11. Franklin, 3:09.25; 12. Western, disqualified.

200 butterfly relay: 1. Stevenson (Steve Hewlewski, Mike Kloope, Caius Bobdescu, Steve Bruestle), 1:47.04; 2. Canton, 1:52.01; 3. Central, 1:53.36; 4. Salem, 1:56.71; 5. Northville, 2:02.92; 6. Plymouth, 2:03.76; 7. John Glenn, 2:13.79; 8. Western, 2:22.15; 9. Franklin, 2:54.45; 10. Wayne, 2:58.98; 11. Churchill, disqualified; 12. Northern, disqualified.

Diving relay: 1. Salem (John Lundy, Andrew Murawski), 306.55 points; 2. Northern, 267.80; 3. Stevenson, 245.65; 4. Northville, 241,75.

400 medley relay: 1. Northville (Will Blickle, Weston Laas, Joe Hogan, Chris Folas), 4:15.35; 2. Stevenson, 4:17.74; 3. Canton, 4:18.49; 4. Salem, 4:31.35; 5. Western, 4:43.25; 6. Franklin, 5:27.42; 7. Wayne, 6:12.91.

500 freestyle crescendo relay: 1. Northville (Aaron Flohr, Chris Culkin, Brad Farris, Chris Keady), 4:31.73; 2. Stevenson, 4:37.15; 3. Canton, 4:39.82; 4. Western, 4:40.85; 5. Salem, 4:48.47; 6. Wayne, 5:23.98; 7. Churchill, 6:24.38; 8. Northern, 6:43.23; 9. Franklin, 7:00.41.

200 medley relay: 1. Central (Jack Gliver, Ryan Booms, Phil Watkins, Dan Lynan), 1:47.13; 2. Wayne, 1:50.19; 3. Stevenson, 1:55.82; 4. Churchill, 1:55.84; 5. Salem, 1:57.69; 6. Canton, 1:59.03; 7.Plymouth, 2:02.81; 8. Northville, 2:11.63; 9. Northern, 2:39.71; 10. Western, 2:46.10: 11. Franklin, 2:54.95.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Matt Massman, Mike Kloote, Pete Bublitz, Josh Papplardo), 1:39.74; 2, Canton, 1:40.58; 3. Northern, 1:42.93; 4. Northville, 1:43.04; 5. Wayne, 1:44.81; 6. Salem, 1:48.67; 7. Churchill, 1:54.20; 8. Plymouth, 2:26.08; 9. Franklin, 2:35.83,

BASEBALL/SOFTBAL

NEW LEAGUE

The Plymouth/Canton Little League Baseball is starting a new league for nine-through 14 year-old players. A registration meeting is scheduled for 9:30-11:30 a.m. January 17 at the Plymouth Public Library. The league plans to send allstar players to the Little League World Series tournament system. Call Jim at 734-207-7793.

COACH NEEDED

Plymouth High School is looking for a ninth-grade softball coach for the 2004 season. Call athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700/02.



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THE WEEK AHEAD

Redford CC vs. Musk. Mona Shores, 8:20 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 Ladywood at Port Huron (McMorran), 4 p.m. Stevenson at Country Day, 4 p.m. (MIHL Showcase at Trenton) Redford CC vs. Grosse Pte. North, 5:10 p.m. Churchill vs. P.H. Northern, 5:50 p.m PREP GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Dec. 18 Churchill at A.A. Huron, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19

Macomb Christian at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 Madonna Invitational, 8:30 a.m. PREP WRESTLING Saturday, Dec. 20

Canton Invitational, 9 a.m. Glenn at Pinckney Inv., 9 a.m.

Churchill at Olivet Invitational, 10 a.m. PREP BOYS SWIMMING Saturday, Dec. 20 Redford CC at Toledo St. Francis, 9 a.m. **GIRLS GYMNASTICS** Saturday, Dec. 20 Canton at Vassar Inv., noon MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Friday, Dec. 19 Mohawk College at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m. **WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL** Friday, Dec. 19 Taylor Univ. (Ind.) at Madonna, 7 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Thursday, Dec. 18 Whalers at Windsor, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20

Whalers vs. London (Compuware), 7:30 p.m.

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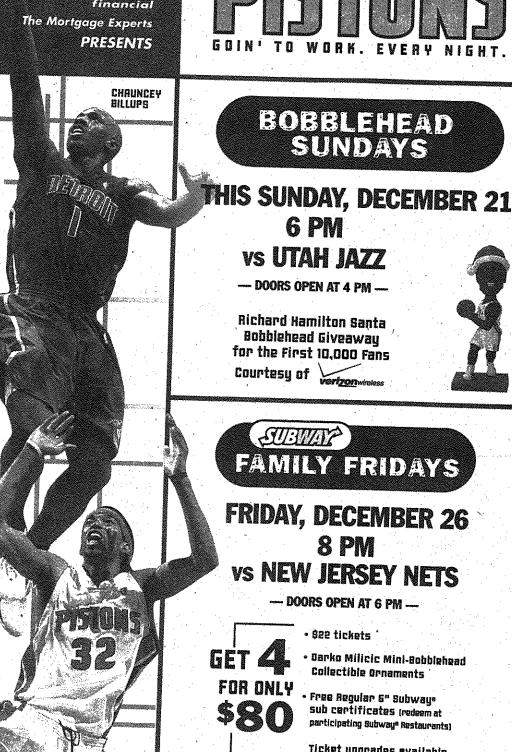


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CATON

FROM PAGE B1

blocker by Kelly Baker and Katie Esper the most consistent throughout the tournament. Defensive specialist Kristie Daniels and setter Stephanie Price, in their first varsity action, both had strong outings.

Still, replacing three key starters from last season's team, including all-division performers Kristen Lake and Colleen O'Brien, won't be simple. Also gone are outside hitter Cindy Rotramel and Jessica Templeton. Lake, O'Brien and Rotramel were starters.

"We have eight seniors, but very few with on-court experience," said Anderson. "We're going to have to play volleyball by committee. Without a team effort, we're definitely in trou-

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

Three starters do return for Canton: Esper, a 5-foot-11 senior middle blocker; Baker, a 5-10 senior middle blocker who was a part-time starter last year; and Kristen Lillie, a 5-8 senior setter.

The other starters are Andrea Johnson, a 5-8 junior, at outside hitter; Conlon, a 5-7 junior, at outside hitter; and Stephanie Price, a 5-6 junior, at setter.

Anderson plans to have two setters on the court at once, but won't definitely commit to a two-setter system just yet. "We'll change up on the fly," he said, adding that it would be "a very vanilla type of offense,"

Others who will see plenty of action are 5-3 senior defensive specialist Elizabeth Alexander; 5-6 senior outside hitter Kara

Jones; 5-5 junior defensive specialist Christie Daniels; and 5-7 senior defensive specialist Katie

"Our team strength comes from our middle blockers," Anderson said, referring to Esper and Baker. "The other players really look to them for leadership. And they're able to run quicks, slides - they're definitely our strongest assets."

What the Chiefs lack is "a terminator," Anderson said, "a goto person. For outsides, Jones, Johnson and Conlon do a great job, but they're not real big."

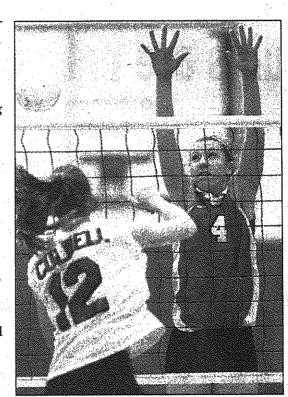
Nor are they very experienced, which means the attack will have to try and feature the middle players and the serving.

"We have to try and take the pressure off the outside hitters with good defense and serve receive," said Anderson. "We

have to serve aggressively, which we showed in that last game (against Melvindale) that we're capable of doing. We have to serve receive and we have to stretch the other team's blocking schemes. You're going to see a lot of creativity to beat better teams. I'm going to wear out a lot of pencils and papers trying to figure out ways to beat better teams."

Despite the retirement of longtime coach Mike Hughes, Livonia Churchill - the defending WLAA champ - is still expected to be a contender. Walled Lake Central, Salem and Livonia Stevenson could be tough, too. As for Canton, Anderson said, "I'll be a bit of a pessimist. We're going to try and be in the top half of the league."

Not a lofty goal. Certainly reachable. Even passable.



Katie Esper (4) figures to be a force inside for Canton's volleyball team. A returning starter, she did well at the Chiefs' openina tournament last weekend.

SALEN

FROM PAGE B1

University senior standout. "And then it was just one. I think these two are more consistent than anyone we've had since."

Having two outside hitters will be a definite aid to Falcusan as a setter as well, Teeters said. It should allow the Rocks to vary their attack.

"We have good outside hitters," he said. "I've always said. the key to success is being able to attack the ball."

Others who will be important parts in the Salem scheme are seniors Lauren Marsonek, a 5-7 1/2 middle blocker; Cortney Edwards, a 5-4 defensive specialist; and Jill Niemi, a 5-4 setter/defensive specialist. Kelly Lepper, a 5-5 junior, and Lauren Price, a 5-11 sophomore, will see plenty of action, too.

Then there are those freshmen. Besides Coppiellie, there's Lauren Kurtz, a 5-11 middle blocker/right-side hitter; Chelsea McPhail, a 5-7 rightside hitter; and Nikki Mersch, a 5-8 back-up setter and left-side

But if there are players who will be instrumental to the Rocks' success, Teeters believes it's Falcusan and Coppiellie.

"Her and Jordan, I've really been surprised," the Salem coach said. Coppiellie, in particular, has been startlingly versatile for their top hitter at present, a

BRUNSWICK

good server and perhaps their primary serve receive.

The ability of this young Salem team was evident at last Saturday's South Lyon Tournament. The Rocks went 4-2 in three pool-play matches of two games each, eventually reaching the tournament finals before losing to Howell in three sets. They were 3-1-2 in matches for the tournament.

That while having three freshmen on the court at the same time in the final.

Asked to list his team's attributes, Teeters started with "serving. Our potential is really high. And our youth."

Still, the Rocks can be even better. "We have to exploit our potential, and we have to add more variety to the attack," he noted.

With three players capable of pre-spin curve serves, the Rocks should be able to keep opponents off-balance. And the opponents who will give them the most trouble, at least in the WLAA, figure to be Churchill, which returns nearly everyone from last season's team - except longtime coach Mike Hughes, who retired; Walled Lake Central, a bit smaller than in the past but still very strong; and Livonia Stevenson, another team with a lot of young talent.

"It's going to be a major upset if we beat Churchill," said Teeters. "But we have a better chance this year."

Especially if the Rocks add features.

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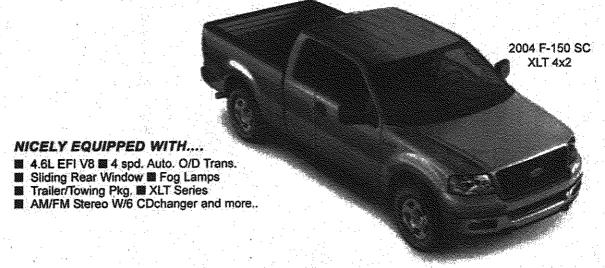
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

Bon voyage

Experience the adventure of the Grand Tour at Meadow Brook Hall on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester



Meadow Brook Hall's lights take on a holiday glow.

by retracing the journey of the Dodge-Wilson family. Guests will receive boarding passes upon arrival into the Great Hall, where they will be part of a festive bon voyage before embarking on their Grand Tour. Also through Dec. 23, youngsters can visit with Santa at Knole Cottage, Frances Dodge's built-to-scale playhouse, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$12.50 for children; and childrenunder 2 are free. A major fund-raising event for Meadow Brook Hall, all Holiday Walk proceeds are used for the preservation-and-interpretation of this significant historic property.

Tours are offered daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the last admittance at 4 p.m., now through Tuesday, Dec. 23. For information, call (248) 370-3140 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org

Buy a magazine

Magazine-of-the-Month has launched a new holiday gift card program for the 2003 holiday season, making it easier than ever to give everyone on your holiday list a gift based upon their interests and hobbies.

Gift givers purchase a holiday gift card that offers the recipient a customized, year-long magazine subscription to a different magazine each month, relating to a subject matter of interest, such as cooking, gardening, crafts and women's health and fitness. New themes for 2003 include children's, parenting, entertainment, business, computers, Hispanic and travel.

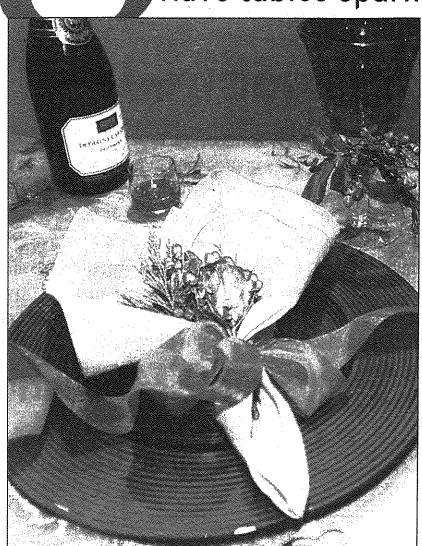
For example, you can get someone on your list with a green thumb a subscription to gardening Magazine-of-the-Month. The gift recipient would receive a personalized gift card with a message letting him or her know that for the next 12 months, a different gardening magazine will arrive in their mailbox - popular titles such as Horticulture and Garden Design, niche titles such as Water Gardening and American Gardener. The customized gift and 12month subscription is only \$10, plus \$2.50 shipping per order, regardless of quantity - 75 percent off the cover price.

Customers can subscribe online at www.magazineofthemonth.com/holiday.asp or by calling (888) 775-MAGS (6274).

ATHOME



get set Have tables sparkle for holidays



Reds and pinks adorn this table for two by The China Closet.

As you "hang up the holly" and "deck the halls," extend the celebration of the season to your table set-

Make spirits bright by featuring such elements as greens and glitter at the table. But you don't have to stick to holiday hues or themes.

"It's all about presentation," said Carolyn Hefner, whose Birmingham business, The China Closet, offers consultations, coordination and services for gatherings that include weddings, dinner and birthday parties, plus corporate events. "For Realtors, it's location, location, location.' With, us it's 'presentation, presentation.' "The China Closet offices resemble rooms of a house. Clients can discuss different features of an event in the different

As illustrations for this article, Hefner and associates arranged two different tables at The China Closet.

WINTER WONDER

The theme of one table was a winter wedding, suitable for January or February as well as for December. Elements suggest the sparkle of winter.

The table is covered with a creamcolored cloth and crowned with a large candelabra of frosted glass and iciclelike crystal drops. The plates are white with gold trim and placed on clear chargers that have tiny gold balls around the rim.

Napkin "rings" are silver and gold tassels. Swags with silver and gold



Carolyn Hefner of The China Closet in Birmingham prepares to light the centerpiece of a wintertime table.

Please see related story, page C3.

tassels adorn the backs

of chairs. As favors, gold mint julep cups filled with baby's breath are at each setting; baby's breath also surrounds each candle. The baby's breath had been sprayed with sparkle

A fresh wreath with colors matching those on the table is on a wall in the room.

so it glistens.

Another table showed that settings can be special even for a casual

lunch for two. This table has a sheer covering that featured a flowing floral design. Colors are luscious pinks and reds, as on the stemware, plates and votives. Napkins are tied with taffeta ribbons that

hold berries and greens. A floral arrangement including rows of roses and berries is on one side of the table. This arrangement is called a beidermeir, a Dutch term for a design that originated in the 14th century. Every flower had a word or feeling attached to it, so the rows conveyed a message.

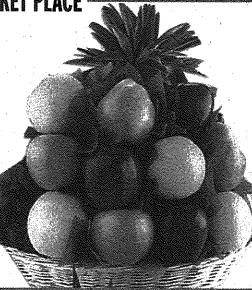
At Heslops in Livonia, manager Jenny Hargreaves presented a table set buffet-style, including red stemware and napkins, and a punch bowl set with a holly pattern.

Other pieces for a holiday table include soup tureens, such as the sleigh-shaped tureen from Fitz & Floyd's Renaissance collection. The Holiday Tartan design by Lenox — in plaid and accented with fruit — can be used before and after the holi-

MARKET PLAC

Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Marketplace on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to: Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.



Holiday cheer

Baskets and centerpieces from Westborn Market make wonderful holiday gifts. Among the many varieties are two shown here: Holiday Classic, with cookies, candies, pistachio nuts, canned ham and jam (\$34.95); and Holiday Harvest, with apples, oranges, pears, grapefruit and pineapple (\$39.95).

Happy-Taste baskets come with such special services as personalized cards and

Westborn Market stores are in Livonia (phone (734) 524-1000), Berkley (phone (248) 547-1000) and Dearborn (phone (313) 278-3815).





About Animals

Dr. Brad Davis

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

One likes country.

I tend to like the Drive, with hit music from the last three decades, although I am getting tired of Billy Idol reporting that, once again, today is a nice day for a white wedding.

Another likes 89X. Another

likes the repetitive club music.

Diverse tastes demand compromise in the workplace in that usually the person who arrives first at the office decides the radio station. In your car, you can listen to whatever you want, basing your decision on what the station plays.

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You can't get them to be what they are not.

This problem happens more than it should when picking a pet.

BAD CHOICES

A number of times people have called me asking if I would pull their dog's canine teeth so that he won't bite at their kids. An elderly lady asked me if the police would come to help her with her rottweiler, overgrown and unruly in the yard. Far too many pets end up at shelters because people don't get what they want from them.

Who would've thought a
Jack Russell terrier would be
energetic and your basset
hound doesn't want to go jogging with you? The Siamese
cat is meowing frequently.

There's nothing wrong with these animals. The owner made a mistake. Getting a pet is not the mistake, but failing to do homework about the animal and breed usually leads to false expectations and trouble. Resources full of information about just about any critter can be found easily, so the error in wanting an animal to be different than its nature falls squarely on those who failed to do research.

If you do your homework,

you will find out that perhaps there's a reason golden retrievers are so popular as family pets. Same with labs.

You might decide the lab is too energetic for your lifestyle. You may want to look at soft-coated wheaten terriers, or some other breed you've never even heard of. Maybe a cat would better fit your lifestyle.

Perhaps you want a macaw, but then you find out they are feathered air horns that throw their food all over your house. Not the perfect pet if you like things quiet and neat.

CHECK IT OUT

Research ahead of time can help you find what's right for you and the life you lead, so your family and your pet can be happy with the decision for years to come.

How to do the research? Check out books about different breeds. Call and talk with your vet. Get to a dog or cat show.

Seeing the breeds right there in front of you can make judging what would be right for you much easier.

The Internet has plenty to say, although it often serves as the misinformation superhighway. For example, you will find sites claiming that notoriously cranky chow chows are great family pets, which might not be the best information.

Always double check what you read on the Internet, be it about animals or otherwise. (If

great, no offense meant, but that breed has a well-earned reputation for biting, making them a questionable choice for a family dog, and especially for first-time dog owners.)

Seeing an animal in a movie does not constitute good research. Huskies don't lean back in lounge chairs enjoying tropical drinks, Dalmatians don't hatch clever plans to get their 101 puppies home, and parrots don't sit quietly until time comes to say something clever and insightful.

Also, don't let what you want blind you to reality. If you really, really, really want a border collie, but you live in an apartment, it won't be what's best for the dog, the apartment, the neighbors, or for you.

Having a pet should be one of the great joys in life. When you get the right pet, that joy is amplified.

Get the wrong one and it's squelched. Do your research ahead of time, and make the decision that's best for your situation. And, if possible, rest the White Wedding song for a while. It's really not a nice day for it to start again.

Dr. Brad Davis is the medical director for the VCA of Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City, MI 48135. Feel free to write him there with questions and comments. He is also one of the hosts of the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk, Visit the Web site at www.Animaltalkradio.com. Send E-mail questions or comments with your e-mail address to Ouestions@animaltalkradio.com.

You can make your pipes silent again

you have a nice chow, that's

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Q. Mrs. Arnold asks: For the past three years we have experienced a tapping or thumping noise in the water pipes each time we turn on the hot water faucets.

Do you have any suggestions that might help? The noise is very irritating.

A. Don't be alarmed. The

solution to your pipe noise should be simple.

If your pipes were quiet for 17 of 21 years, then it should be easy to make them silent again.

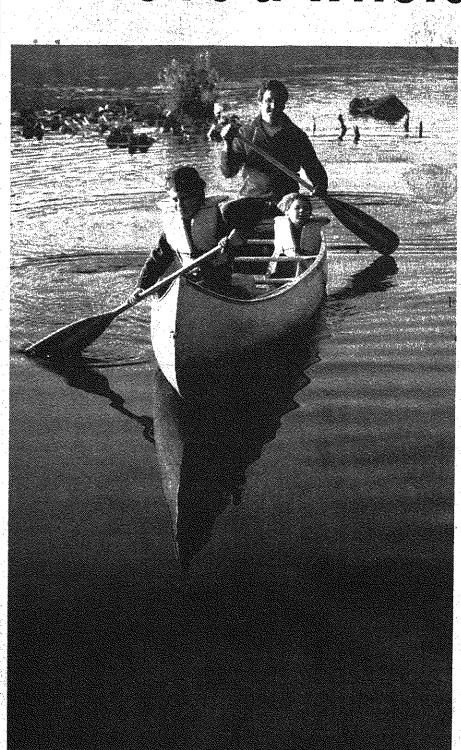
New pressure from a clean, free-flowing water heater has probably put a strain on old dried-out washers in your faucets.

This do-it-yourself project will take about 20 minutes per faucet at a cost of 25 cents per washer (two per handle). After the gaskets are replaced, the water heater should be bled.

The simplest way to bleed a water heater is to attach a hose to the outlet at the bottom of the tank and turn the valve on.

After about 20 to 40 seconds, when the escaping water stops sputtering, the tank is bled, and the valve should be closed.

We're a whole lot closer to home.



Families have found some of the best things in our hometown classifieds. Like this really great canoe in the Birmingham Eccentric or that great big, loveable old dog, in the Canton Observer.

Folks take time to look for that special item advertised by a neighbor who sold his cottage or the woman who can't have a dog in her new apartment. They spend time shopping our friendly classified marketplace.

So, if you have something you're not using, or if you're looking for an item and want to buy it close to home, pick up your Observer & Eccentric Classifieds and discover a marvelous multi-community marketplace!

Observer & Eccentric Classified Ads





Manager Jenny Hargreaves at Heslops in Livonia presents the Christmas table set buffet style that was described on the front page of this section. The table features a Christmas punch bowl set, Fitz & Floyd Renaissance and Lenox Holiday Tartan

Going for the green

You can make distinctive centerpieces using fresh greens secured in oasis, as presentations at local garden clubs this month illus-

Noble fir, white pine, balsam fir, boxwood and blueberry juniper were among the suggested greens; portoford cedar branches are good for elongating arrangements.

Materials to have at hand include sharp clippers, oasis, floral tape for wrapping stems, waterproof tape to secure oasis to the container, picks, ribbon and wire clippers.

Red and purple are hot colors this year, Stacy Buatti told the Hill & Dale Garden Club of Farmington/Farmington

Among Buatti's tips were to make fresh cuts in the greens, and to insert only the stems in the oasis.

Judy Cornellier told the Troy Garden Club she likes to use rosehips for berries in arrangements.

Dried artichokes are also good elements; to make your own, just put uncovered artichokes in your freezer.

They can be covered with cinnamon or gold paint later, if you wish.

Be sure to cut the oasis above the rim of the container, so you can stick the greenery on the side and integrate it into the top, Cornellier said.

When selecting branches, be sure that no needles come off when you run your hand down the branch and that it bends but doesn't break, she said.

Watch that water temperature in washer

henever winter arrives, the question always arises whether or not it will be as severe as predicted. The human race has not learned how to master nature, but we

have tuned ourselves to go along with it. Now, have you been a smart consumer this year?

Appliance Doctor

Joe

medium water Gagnon temperature selection, you need 100ºF water or as close as possible. I'll bet that very few homeowners have adjusted the water valves where the hoses

To get the

optimum wash

in your wash-

ing machine,

using the

hook up. The temperature of the ground where your water pipes are located is around or below the freezing mark right now. The water entering your home is pretty cold compared to the

summer months. When you set the water temperature on the washing machine to medium, you are getting a mixture of both hot and cold. In cold weather you need to cut down the flow of cold water coming into the machine. You can do that by closing the cold water faucet until the mixture reaches a temperature of 110 degrees. Take a candy thermometer and hold it in the water during the fill cycle and make the adjustment accordingly.

Notice that I said 100°F gives you the best wash, yet I asked you to get 110°F coming into the tub. The reason is that the inner tub of your washer is usually cold because the washer is in a basement or located against a wall. If you follow this procedure, I can guarantee that your clothes will not look like the dull appearance of slush in April.

If the temperatures should happen to fall near the zero mark this winter and we have winds reaching 20 mph, the results are great for the plumbing industry. You've heard the

cliché about the rates charged by them is equal to attorney fees and it really is no joke when you have to call a plumber in the middle of the night.

Have you shut off the water 33 valves which lead to the outside garden hose? If you haven't, shame on you. Let me tell you what is going to happen to a lot of people this year. The valve and the copper line will freeze right there near the wall and all you will get is a drip. Then it will thaw out usually while you are at work or gone on vacation. Even if you just went to the store you are going to have the mess of your life. Items will be ruined and destroyed. I can assure you that you will not let it happen again. After you pay the plumber your hard-earned dollars, you could need an attorney to get reimbursed by the insurance company.

Last winter in my hometown of Timmins, Ontario, the temperature remained at 30 degrees below zero consistently for six weeks. During periods like this up there, homeowners have the habit of opening all cupboard and vanity doors to let heat penetrate near the water pipes. This might be a good thought for you should we get temperatures that are bitter cold this year.

You ought to think safety throughout the winter. Do you have a smoke and fire alarm and if so, did you change the batteries? What about a carbon monoxide detector, (especially, * if you have a furnace that is over five years old)? Did you clean the dryer vent line going. to the outside and is that vent line made of solid metal?

Every year especially during the winter months we have the lead news stories which tell us about children or adults dying, often in their sleep, homes and businesses blowing up. Nature has no mercy on the ignorant. I urge everyone to follow the simple rules of smart living. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ-950 and WXYT-1270. He is a member and past president of the Society. of Consumer Affairs Professionals. Hisphone number is (248) 455-7281.

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Trim can help maintain paint Plan your shopping to keep costs down Here's a fact often overexpands and contracts less "It costs about the same as than natural grain wood (five cypress and half as much as percent less by Boone's estiwestern red cedar, but it permate), paint doesn't fracture forms 10 times better," noted

looked. A paint job is only as good as the material it is paint-

So, when deciding what materials to use on your home's exterior trim, you may want to consider a product that's getting noticed by more builders, millworkers and painters. Using exterior composite trim can make a paint job last much

"A paint job on composite trim will last as long as the quality of the paint you chooseusually about 15 years," said David Boone, owner of Dave's Moulding, Millwork and Cabinets in Chesapeake, Va. "On the other hand, solid wood trim needs to be repainted every three years."

Because composite wood

and allow moisture to penetrate the trim's surface. This prevents peeling and splitting common to lumber trim. A homogenous form free of knots and splits allows composite trim to be shaped and routed into many forms without diminishing its integrity and stability.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

Exterior composite wood is moisture resistant throughout, not just on the surface, No matter what cuts or shapes are made, new edges are just as moisture resistant. Builders often expect to find exterior composite trim products to be similarly priced to solid lumber Boone.

With trim packages averaging as high as \$6,000 per home, Boone sold about \$5 million of exterior architectural millwork last year. In eight years, he has never had a performance problem with exterior composite trim.

Homeowners may like the curb appeal composite trim adds to a home, and it's available in both smooth and wood grain textured surfaces.

For more information, contact the Composite Panel Association at info@pbmdf.com or call tollfree (866) 4Composites (426-

Domestic Planner

Diana Koenig

determined by the number of people in your household and how much entertaining you do.

I dread grocery shopping

and I must do it often. It

takes time and money. Is

grocery shop efficiently?

there a method you use to

Grocery shopping is not

optional. We

can live in a

disorganized

ing is neces-

sary for sur-

needs of one

family varies

from another.

The type of

food items you

purchase, how

often you shop

and how much

you spend is

vival. The

room, but eat-

To minimize the number of trips you make to the grocery store, plan ahead. Decide first how often you want to go to the store; twice a week, weekly or monthly. Shopping more frequently shortens the time you spend in the store and your list does not need to be as complete. (The disadvantage is that you go more frequently and it is tempting to spend more money unless you follow

your list.) Plan the meals and complete a list with the necessary ingredients. Write down the items on your list according to the route you walk in the grocery store. Visualize each aisle in the store as you create your grocery list. You will be able to check food items off quickly on

your list because you know their location. Cut coupons at home ahead of time and clip them to the back of your list.

Research prices because sometimes buying off brand products (assuming they are of equal quality) is cheaper than buying coupon items.

If you have a strict grocery budget you will need to make a list, maximize use of coupons, and use a calculator. You can keep a running total as you put items in your cart. Another option is to shop at several stores in close proximity, taking advantage of in-store coupons and sale promotions such as, "buy one, get one free."

Minimize trips to the store by keeping an abundant supply of basics. Stock up on these basics when they are on sale. Keep extra bread and meat items in the freezer. Powdered milk is a good item to keep in stock in case you run out of milk. This could delay a trip to the store.

Designate a shelf in your basement as a pantry overflow. Keep items such as sugar, flour, soups and snacks on the shelf. A freezer is a worthwhile investment. You can keep the freezer well-stocked and purchase items on sale. This will help avoid last minute trips to the grocery store.

Entertaining requires more planning and more money. If you are having dinner guests, you need to include the extra food items in your grocery budget.

To avoid a budget disaster, you will need to plan ahead. We do a lot of entertaining

both by invitation and for surprise visitors. Hospitality is important to me so I keep frozen goodies, snacks and plenty of drink choices on hand. If unexpected visitors arrive, I can make them feel welcome.

If you have small children, you may want to plan your shopping at a time when another family member can baby-sit. Shopping with small children can be a challenge. When my oldest daughter was two, she decided to see what happens when you tightly squeeze a mustard bottle from the bottom. As mustard flew everywhere, I realized this was going to be a long, embarrassing grocery trip. In another incident, my second son also at age two decided to toss a 2liter soda bottle from the cart. I had never witnessed such a scene. The bottle began spinning like a sprinkler spraying sticky substance all over the products in the aisle, products in my cart and on both of us. It was spinning so rapidly and spraying so violently I could

Sometimes it is a battle to decide whether to take small children at your convenience or wait for an available sitter.

not get close enough to stop it.

Today's Refrigerator Bulletin:

www.domesticplanner.com

"Grocery shop until you drop or plan ahead!"

Send your questions and success stories to: Diana Koenig, P.O. Box 1702, Manchester, MO 63011. E-mail dianakoenig@hotmail.com

Study color schemes before choosing one

Although most everyone has a favorite color, interior designers say that it may not

always be easy to live with it. "Whether someone wants cool or warm colors is more. important," says Kristen Dilworth, designer at Glenna cook Interiors, San Mateo, Calif.

"In the same way people either like summer or winter best, almost everyone prefers either warm colors, such as reds, oranges and yellows or cool ones-blues, greens and lavenders. A person's particular 'favorite' usually falls within their preference. If overpowering, choose a shade from the same side of the palette and add the vivid hue through accessories."

Wardrobes provide clues to color comfort, according to Kevin Pritchett, owner of

Traditional Plus Interiors Inc., Lilburn, Ga.

He asks clients: "What outfit do you look best in, feel best in, get the most compliments on, reach for first? That's the palette to choose from," he

Pritchett agrees, however, that the color of a favorite jacket might not be appropriate as the dominant color in a

"Choose a compatible shade and add the favorite in pillows or a throw," he sug-

"Pay attention to how the color in one room works with those in adjacent spaces," advises Pamela Maffei-Toolan, vice president, design, Waverly Lifestyle Group.

"I wanted something rich and luxurious in my dining room, so I picked red. But red

is too dark for a room I work in, so, for the kitchen, I chose a subtle terra cotta."

Maffei-Toolan and her Waverly design team recognize that most people don't make over whole rooms all at once, but add to interiors year after year. The brand's fabric and wallcovering collections make it easy to achieve color compatibility.

Patterns are designed to coordinate with each other, and with colors in previous collections. When people do redecorate a room, "they almost always choose colors relating to the ones they used before," Dilworth adds.

For more information about coordinating collections by Waverly, visit www.waverly.com or call (800)

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Create a workable home office through technology

Due to advancements in technology, more people are working from home.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 19.8 million people do some work at home as part of their primary job. Because of this trend, more and more people are setting up home offices.

Although technology facilitates the ability to work at home, telecommuting can pose certain challenges.

Here are some tips on how to create a home office environment that will work for

Make sure your home office is in a good location. If possible, set it up in a room that's quiet and away from high-traffic areas.

This will allow for less distraction and more productivity. a room with good lighting and climate control is important,

Stay organized.

Your home office should mirror that in any corporate environment.

To that end, arrange office supplies that you use everyday in such a way that they can be easily accessed. In addition, consider installing cabinets to store unused files and office supplies.

Don't keep things in your home office that don't belong there.

Items such as kids toys and exercise equipment can be a distraction.

However, if it's not possible to remove non-related items, consider enclosing the home office area with a screen or decorative barrier.

Have a dedicated phone line in the home office. This will enable you to easily distinguish business calls from personal calls. Also, consider an additional dedicated phone

line if you're setting up a fax machine. This will eliminate the need to ask clients to call you back so you can hook the fax machine into the phone

■ Make the most of your space. If you have a small room or corner for your home office, consider furniture with components that fold up when not in use. And, don't forget the

You can free up desk space,

for example, by mounting the phone. Hang pictures or items you need easy access to (such as a palm pilot or calendar) with new Scotch reclosable fasteners last for thousands of closures without diminishing the holding power, allowing you to remove and replace items as many times as you like. Scotch reclosable fasteners are available at office supply and mass merchandise stores nationwide.

Drafts can drive up heating costs

Homeowners can avoid one of the great pains of home ownership: Drafts.

Drafts are annoying because they creep up on people when they are most vulnerable glancing out the window first thing in the morning, toweling off after a warm shower or taking off snow-covered shoes next to the front door.

According to Keith Hahn of Handyman Connection, one of the nation's largest homeimprovement companies, those drafts also cost the homeowners money. "Drafty windows and doors can increase a homeowner's heating costs by as much as 20 percent," says

Older homes are especially vulnerable, but even new homes can develop drafts as they settle. Hahn advises homeowners to check each of their windows and doors at least once a year to locate energysapping drafts. Once located, drafts can be minimized or eliminated altogether with some basic do-it-vourself skills.

The simplest and most comon solution, says Hahn using caulking cord to seal windows from the outside. Caulking cord is available at just about any home improvement store. Just unroll the cord and use your fingers to press the cord into the creases between the sash and the window casing.

"Make sure you also seal the space between your top and bottom sash," Hahn

adds. Exterior sheeting is another option for sealing windows. While this option may not be as aesthetically pleasing, plastic sheeting is very effective at insulating windows. Pre-fabricated sheeting kits are widely available. Simply follow the manufacturer's directions for installing the sheeting, "If you're uncomfortable on ladders or with your own DIY skills, you should consider hiring a pro to install sheeting,"

cautions Hahn. Around doors, check the weather stripping on the inside of the door frame to ensure that it is still intact and supple enough to provide a tight seal. If you can see gaps, or if the weather stripping is no longer resilient, it's time for replacement. Materials are readily available, but this installation is a little more difficult. Hiring a professional to install new weather stripping around doors might be a wise option, says Hahn, "especially considering the money you'll save by keeping your house sealed tightly."

Other common but often forgotten sources of drafts are the spaces around exterior electrical outlets and faucets. Both caulking cord and canned foam insulation work well for sealing these spaces.

All of these solutions are effective but temporary, Hahn points out.

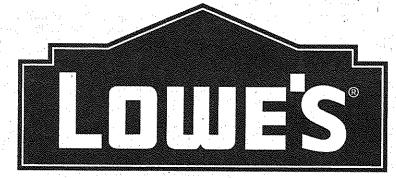
"Recent technological advances may make it worth vour while to consider replacing windows and doors altogether," he says.

Keith Hahn is the chief operating officer of Handyman Connection, a nationwide network of home improvement and repair contractors. For more information call (800) 466-5530 or visit Handuman Connection online at www.handymanconnection.



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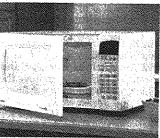


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A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Cariton was held Tuesday, December 9, 2003, at 46000 Summit Parkway. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Members Present: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin Zarbo, Yack,

Shefferly Members Absent: Kirchgatter

Staff Present: Director Faas, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, (Also present late arrival 8:14 pm, Director Minghine) Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to approve the agenda

with the addition of G-16 Resolution Authorizing Limited Tax General Obligation Bond Series 2003. Motion carried by all members present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the Study Session Board Minutes of November 18, 2003. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to approve the Regular Board Minutes of November 25, 2003. Motion carried by all members present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve payment of

	monon by memices, and	Shoreer Share	mangarar so upp.	ove baymene o
	the bills as presented.	Motion carrie		s present.
	General Fund	101	\$ 584,692.73	
٠	Fire Fund	206	57,802.34	The second second
	Police Fund	207	130,172.14	Expenditure
	Summit Operating	208	63,395.78	Recap for
	Street Lighting	219	15,729.93	Dec. 9, 2003
	Cable TV Fund	230	2,159.84	
	Twp Improvement	246	6,575.97	
	Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267	1,607.95	
	Federal Grants Fund	274	3,503.00	
	Auto Theft Grant	289	10,648.49	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Cap Proj-Summit Cons	t 402	1,799.90	
÷	Cap Proj-Road Paving	403	250.00	
	Bldg Auth Construction		755.97	
	Golf Fund	584	8,702.07	
	Water & Sewer Fund	592	744,373.85	
	Trust & Agency Fund	701	6,435.00	
	Post Employ. Benefits	736	31,541.54	
	Total - All Funds		1,670,146.50	

PRESENTATION: 1. Presentation of civilian citations to Karl Ball and Shiloh Samara. Civilian citations were presented to Karl Ball and Shiloh Samara (not present).

CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. Set Pubic Hearing Date for Pickwick Village Subdivision Request to Create Street Light Special Assessment District. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to set the public hearing for the request of Pickwick Village Subdivision Street Lighting Special Assessment District for January 27, 2004. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 2. Budget Amendment - Road Paving Fund - Wayne County Billings. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the Capital Projects Road Paving Fund to appropriate sufficient budget funds to cover billings from Wayne County for the installation of electronic school speed limit signals on Morton-Taylor Road north and south of Hanford Road:

Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #403-000-699-0000 \$16,235 Increase Appropriations: Transfers to Wayne County #403-506-965-0000 \$16,235 This budget amendment increases the Capital Projects Road Paving budget from \$3,043,449 to \$3,059,684. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 3. Authorization to Pay Bills Through the End of 2003. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize the payment of the Township's bills on December 26, 2003, as normally scheduled, subject to prior review by the Clerk and Treasurer. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 4. Budget Amendment - Special Investigation Funds 266, 267 and 289. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment for the Special Investigative Funds 266, 267 and 289. WWN Forfeiture Fund #266: Increase Revenues \$125,092 Increase Appropriations \$125,092. This budget amendment increases the Special Investigative Fund #266 budget from \$301,260 to \$426,352. Special Investigative Fund #267: Decrease Revenues \$36,060. Decrease Appropriations This budget amendment decreases the Special Investigative Fund #266 budget from \$107,036 to \$71,000. State Projects \$289: Decrease Revenues \$79,236. Decrease Appropriations \$79,236. This budget amendment decreases the Special Investigative Fund #266 budget from \$461,036 to \$381,800.

Item 5. Budget Amendment - Capital Projects Building Construction Fund. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment in the 2003 Capital Projects Building Construction Fund to adjust the budget to estimated 2003 expenditures: Increase Revenues \$4,515,064 / Increase Appropriations \$4,515,064. This budget amendment increases the 2003 Capital Projects Building Construction Fund from \$23,650,000 to \$28,165,064. Motion carried by all members

gall members prese

present. Item 6. Re-appointment to the Planning Commission. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to reappoint Ronald Lieberman to the Canton Township Planning Commission, term to expire December 31, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Item 7. Re-appointment to the Planning Commission. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to re-appoint Catherine Johnson to the Canton Township Planning Commission, term to expire December 31, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Item 8. Final Plat Approval for Antique Forest Subdivision. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the project sponsor, Mr. Richard Lewiston, to grant final approval of the plat for the proposed Antique Forest Subdivision, subject to compliance with any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning and Engineering Divisions, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion

carried by all members present. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. Consider Special Land Use Approval for Craig's Cruisers Family Entertainment Center (Coin Operated Amusement Device Establishment). Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the Project Sponsors to conduct the special use for a coin operated amusement device establishment within the proposed Craig's Cruisers on parcel no. 044-99-0017-706, subject to compliance with any conditions contained herein and all other regulations of the

Township. Motion carried by all members present. Item 2. Consider Final Site Plan for Charing Cross Site Condominiums Phase I. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. David Zaitchik, to approve the site plan for the proposed Charing Cross Site Condominiums, Phase I, conditioned upon the applicant reevaluating the plant material specified to provide a wider variety of deciduous trees and confirm the appropriateness of some of the selected wetland species, and subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any and conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part

hereof. Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. Consider Site Plan for Huron Parkway Private Road. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Marshall Kallen to approve the site plan for the proposed Huron Parkway Private Road, subject to the project sponsor paving approximately one-quarter mile of Lotz Road from the intersection of Huron Parkway and Lotz Road, north to the existing pavement near the entrance to Home Depot, as well as any and all state and local development regulations, and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried by all members

present. Item 4. Consider Special Land Use Request for Abbeys of Canton Senior Housing. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the Project Sponsor, Mr. Mike Parks, to conduct the special use for the proposed Abbeys of Canton Senior Housing, conditioned upon contribution of \$8,000 toward intersection improvements and subject to compliance with any conditions contained herein and all other regulations of the Township. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 5. Consider Final Site Plan for Canford Park Site Condominiums. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Larry Wilkinson, to approve the site plan for the proposed Canford Park Site Condominiums, subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 6. Consider Amendment No. 2 to the Cherry Hill Village PDD and the Amendment No. 2 to the Uptown Planned Development Agreement. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the project sponsor, Biltmore Properties, to amend Amendment No. 2 to the Cherry Hill Village Planned Development and Amendment No. 2 to the Uptown Planned

Development agreement, as outlined in the attached drafts to the amendment. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 7. Consider Site Plan For Canton Corners Outlot. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. James Pappas, to approve the site plan for the proposed Canton Corners Outlot, subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 8. Consider Creating and Filing the Position of Ordinance Inspector (Landscaping and Site Compliance). Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to create and fill the position of Ordinance Inspector (Landscaping and Site Compliance) within the Planning Services Division. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 9. Request Approval of Leisure Services Strategic Plan. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Leisure Services Strategic Plan, An Initiative for the Future, as presented. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 10. Authorize the Lease Agreement with Cybex Capital Corporation for Thirteen Pieces of Cardiovascular Fitness Equipment. Motion by Bennett, supported by Burdziak to approve a thirty-six month lease agreement in the amount of \$50,848.89 with Cybex Capital Corporation for thirteen pieces of cardiovascular fitness equipment provided by Fitness Things. Motion carried by all

members present. Item 11. Adopt Ordinance to Establish a Cultural Commission. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to introduce and publish for first reading, Ordinance No. 160 Cultural Commission Ordinance, first publication to take place on December 18, 2003. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to table Ordinance No. 160 Cultural Commission Ordinance. Motion carried by all members present. CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

COMMISSION FOR CULTURAL ARTS ORDINANCE NO. 160 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE CANTON CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR THE GENERAL PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CANTON CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS; PROVIDING FOR MEETINGS, PROCEDURES AND COMMITTEES IN THE OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF AN ANNUAL REPORT; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES: PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: Section 1. GENERAL PURPOSE. The general purpose of this ordinance is to establish pursuant to P.A. 1947 No. 359 MCLA 42.1, as amended, a Canton Cultural Arts Commission to advise the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees and the Leisure Services Advisory Commission on the development of the arts, to promote and publicize projects that support the arts, to serve as advocates for the arts, to encourage networking and collaborations of the arts in the Canton Community.

The Canton Cultural Arts Commission shall act as an advisory Board with the duty to study, conceive, promulgate and develop plans for the enhancement of the arts in the Community.

The Commission shall further promote public awareness and enlist the support of interested individuals, businesses, industry,

schools and civic organizations to further its purpose. The Commission shall encourage the development of the arts in the community including, but not limited to, visual arts, drama,

music, dance, heritage, humanities, and other art forms. The Commission shall assist in the development of partnerships and collaborations that promote the arts.

The Commission shall serve as advocates to the arts, promote and

support arts education. Section 2. CANTON CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION. The Board of Trustees hereby establishes and creates the Canton Cultural Arts Commission whose actions and authority are limited to the purposes as set forth in Section 1 of this Ordinance.

Section 3. MEMBERSHIP. The Commission shall consist of up to 17 members appointed by the Township Supervisor with the approval of the Board of Trustees. Not more than one member of the Canton Board of Trustees will serve in an official capacity of the Commission. Members will be solicited from all aspects of the arts.

A Commission member's term of office shall be for three years, except that four of the members appointed to the first Commission shall serve for a term of one year, four members for a term of two vears and three members for a term of three years. The office shall expire on December 31, provided a member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed to replace the member. Commission members will serve without compensation.

Membership may be terminated at anytime by the Board of Trustees should any member conduct themself in an unprofessional manner or have two unexcused absences in one calendar year. The chairperson shall inform the member and recommend to the Board of Trustees as to whether the member should be replaced.

Interested citizens may serve on committees to further the purposes of the Commission, but only Commission members shall constitute a quorum for official business. A quorum is defined in the

Members of the Township staff may be appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve as a liaison member(s) to assist in activities which serve the purpose of the Commission. Section 4. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS. A. The

Commission shall annually elect a member to serve as Chairperson, a member to serve as Vice-Chairperson and a member to serve as

B. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings, shall appoint such committees as may be authorized by the Commission, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The Chairperson, subject to the rules of the Commission, shall decide all points of order or procedure unless otherwise directed by a majority of the Commission in session at that time. C. The Vice-Chairperson shall preside and exercise all duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson. D. The Secretary shall perform the duties customarily involved in such office. All official correspondence shall be approved by the Chairperson. A copy of the minutes of each meeting shall be sent to the Township Clerk and Supervisor.

Section 5. MEETINGS. A. All meetings of the Commission shall be considered work meetings and open to all Township officials, their appointees, authorized representatives of organizations with the Canton Community and to citizens of the community in accordance with the Michigan Open Meeting Act. B. The Commission shall meet regularly, not less than every three (3) months, on a date and time set by the Commission. A schedule of meetings shall be set annually by the Commission and posted on the Township bulletin board and website. C. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson as deemed necessary or advisable, with a 5-day written notice of the special meeting date to the members of the

PROCEDURES AND COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSION. A. The Commission will establish by-laws and governing rules as deemed appropriate and approved by the Leisure Services Advisory Commission. B. Minutes shall be kept of all regular and special meetings of the Commission and made available to the public in accordance with the Michigan Freedom of Information Act. C. The normal order of business of the Commission shall be: 1. Call to Order; 2. Roll Call; 3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting; 4. Other Agenda Items; 5. Adjournment. D. All proceedings, decisions and resolutions of the Commission shall be initiated by a motion. The vote upon motions and resolutions shall be recorded by roll call. E. Robert's Rules of Orders Revised shall govern the conduct of the Commission unless alternate rules are adopted by the Commission and approved by the Board of Trustees. F. At a minimum, there shall be the following standing committees as determined by the Commission: 1. Annual Goals 2. Promotion and Publicity 3. Program 4. Development/ Fund Raising 5. Strategic Planning. Additional committees may be established by the Commission. At least one member of each committee must be an officer of the Commission. Sub Committees must establish goals annually, develop appropriate operating procedures, and record minutes in accordance with the Michigan

Freedom of Information Act. Section 7. ANNUAL REPORT. The Commission shall, at the end of each calendar year, prepare an Annual Report to the Canton Township Board of Trustees, reviewing the prior years activities and providing recommendations for future activities of the Commission. The Annual Report shall be placed on file with the Commission Secretary and the Township Clerk with copies to the members of the Board of Trustees and the Leisure Services Advisory Commission. Section 8. REPEAL. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, except as herein

this Ordinance full force and effect. Section 9. SEVERABILITY. Should any provision or section of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining provision or

provided, are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give

Section 10. SAVINGS CLAUSE. The repeal or amendment herein shall not abrogate or affect any offense or act committed or

done, or any penalty or forfeiture incurred, or any pending litigation or prosecution of any right established or occurring prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, as amended.

Section 11. PUBLICATION. That the Clerk for the Charter Township of Canton shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective upon publication as required by law.

· Terry G. Bennett, Clerk · Item 12. Create and Fill Continuing Part-time Clerk Position in the Human Resources Division. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to create and fill a Continuing Part-Time Clerk position in Human Resources to be hired after January 1,

2004. Motion carried by all members present. Item 13. Approval to Pay Annual Service Agreement Fee with Motorola for Cad. Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to approve the annual payment of \$23,512.92 to Motorola for a five-year service agreement to cover the CAD electronic console in the police communications center. Motion carried by all members

Îtem 14. Approve TFG Installation and Services, Inc. Proposal to Install New and Relocated Furnishings. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to remove from the table and award the bid and establish a purchase order in the amount of \$43,450.00 to TFG Installation Service, Inc., 7550 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan 48232 for furnishing installation throughout the Administration and Public Safety Buildings. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 15. Capital Items Expenditure Policy. Motion by Bennett, supported by Shefferly to approve revisions to the Capital Purchasing Policy as outlined in the Capital Items Expenditure Policy. Motion carried by all members present. CANTON CAPITAL ITEMS EXPENDITURE FINANCE

POLICY POLICY: The purpose of this policy is to regulate capital item expenditures.

APPROVED CAPITAL ITEMS: A. An approved Capital Items List must be fixed for the year. B. Board approval will be required to make any changes to approved Capital items. C. Capital Items will be limited to the actual items budgeted, and will be limited to total dollar amount budgeted. Example: Ten items budgeted totaling \$100,000.00 Once purchases total up to \$100,000.00, no further item may be purchased even if only eight items were purchased. D. Should total Capital Items purchased be less than budgeted amount, reprogramming of excess funds cannot be done administratively, and will require Board approval.

CAPITAL ITEM CUTOFF: A. The capital item cutoff for Purchase Orders will be September 30th of each year. B. There must be a reasonable expectation to complete the purchase

before December 31st of the same year. CARRYOVER OF OPEN PURCHASE ORDERS: A. Carryover of open purchase orders from one year to the next will be approved only if extenuating circumstances prevent completion of the purchase before December 31st. B. Purchase orders are not to be issued to tie up funds so the funds can be spent the

following year. Item 16. Resolution Authorizing Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Resolution Authorizing Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003, not to exceed \$6,900,000, and authorization for the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign the document. Motion by all members present.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2003 Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne, State of Michigan

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Issuer"), held on December 9, 2003, at 7:08 o'clock p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

PRESENT: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin, Shefferly, Yack, Zarbo ABSENT: Members: Kirchgatter The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member

Bennett and supported by Member McLaughlin. WHEREAS, the Issuer does hereby determine that it is necessary to acquire by purchase from the Charter Township of Canton Building Authority (herein the "Authority") capital improvement items consisting of certain recreational improvements, a new fire headquarters building, and an addition to the police building together with all necessary and related appurtenances and attachments therefor (the "Project") so as to reduce the interest costs ov reduce the capital costs of the Issuer: ereta and ther

WHEREAS, the cost of the Project is estimated not to exceed Six Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,900,000); and the interior WHEREAS, to finance the cost of the Project, this Township Board deems it necessary to borrow the principal sum of not to

exceed Six Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,900,000) and issue capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001 ("Act 34"), to pay all or part of the cost of the Project; WHEREAS, a notice of intent was published in accordance with Act

34 which provides that the capital improvement bonds may be issued without a vote of the electors of the Issuer unless a proper petition for an election on the question of the issuance of the bonds is filed with the Township Clerk within a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of publication. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Authorization of Bonds: Bond Terms. Bonds of the Issuer designated LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS. SERIES 2003 (the "Bonds") are authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal sum of not to exceed Six Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,900,000) for the purpose of paying all or part of the cost of the Project, including the costs incidental to the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds. The issue shall consist of bonds in fully-registered form of the denomination of \$5,000, or multiples thereof not exceeding for each maturity the maximum principal amount of that maturity, numbered consecutively in order of registration, dated as of the delivery of the Bonds. The Bonds shall bear interest at a rate of not to exceed seven (7%) per annum. mature in the principal amounts and be payable as to principal and interest at the times and in the manner as shall be determined at the time of the sale of the Bonds and may be subject to redemption prior to maturity as shall be determined at the time of sale of the

Interest shall be payable to the registered owner of record as of the 15th day of the month prior to the payment date for each interest payment. The record date of determination of registered owner for purposes of payment of interest as provided in this paragraph may be changed by the Issuer to conform to market practice in the future. Interest shall be payable to the registered owner of record as of the 15th day of the month preceding the payment date for each interest payment. The principal of the Bonds shall be payable upon presentation and surrender to the Transfer Agent (as defined below).

Unless waived by any registered owner of Bonds to be redeemed, official notice of redemption shall be given by the Transfer Agent on behalf of the Issuer. Such notice shall be dated and shall contain at a minimum the following information: original issue date: maturity dates: interest rates; CUSIP numbers, if any; certificate numbers (and in the case of partial redemption) the called amounts of each certificate; the place where the Bonds called for redemption are to be surrendered for payment; and that interest on the Bonds or portions thereof called for redemption shall cease to accrue from and

after the redemption date. In addition, further notice shall be given by the Transfer Agent in such manner as may be required or suggested by regulations or market practice at the applicable time, but no defect in such further notice nor any failure to give all or any portion of such further notice shall in any manner defeat the effectiveness of a call for redemption if notice thereof is given as prescribed herein.

The Bonds shall be issued in book-entry only form through The Depository Trust Company in New York, New York ("DTC") and the Township Clerk and Treasurer are each authorized to execute such custodial or other agreement with DTC as may be necessary to accomplish the issuance of the Bonds in book-entry only form and to make such changes in the Bond Form within the parameters of this resolution as may be required to accomplish the foregoing.

A bank or financial institution shall be appointed to serve as bond registrar, paving agent and transfer agent (the "Transfer Agent") for this issue, Said appointment shall be made at or before the time of sale of the Bonds. The Issuer reserves the right to replace the Transfer Agent at any time upon written notice to the registered owners of record of the Bonds not less than sixty (60) days prior to an interest payment date.

Execution of Bonds. The Bonds of this issue shall be executed in the name of the Issuer with the facsimile signatures of the Supervisor and the Clerk of the Issuer and shall have the seal of the Issuer, or a facsimile thereof, printed or impressed on the Bonds. No Bond shall be valid until authenticated by an authorized officer or representative of the Transfer Agent. The Bonds shall be delivered to the Transfer Agent for authentication and be delivered by the Transfer Agent to the purchaser or other person in accordance

Continued on Page 7C

Storage has improved for holiday items

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Every year we struggle to find where we put last year's holiday decorations - ornaments, garlands, candles,

wreaths and table decorations. Finding them always is a challenge.

Did we put the lights in the attic or under the floor? Were the wreaths in with the garland or was the garland in the boxes with the lights?

We tried labeling the boxes once. That was a mistake three years later nothing was as marked.

Recently, we were flying home from a hardware convention in Chicago.

As passengers, we were a captive audience.

There in the seat pouch was an airline sales catalog.

Soon we got to the holiday section and to pages that dealt with holiday decoration storage. What a find! There was an ornament box, a wreath box, a wreath bag and even a bag large enough to hold an artificial tree. That's when our wheels started turning.

How did these differ from our old storage containers? And how could they help? Well, the answers were right there, and the thought of storing this year's decorations became exciting.

A few years ago, our items for the holidays weren't stored in an organized fashion.

Every box was a different size and large items like garlands and wreaths went into big black trash bags. The bags were ideal for keeping the dust off the decorations, but they were flimsy and didn't hold up over several seasons.

Every bag and box had to be opened and the contents laid out and sorted before any decorating could begin. What wasn't used had to be put away again. We then came up with an idea we thought to be the solution - hard plastic flip-top containers, all the same size and color. We labeled their contents and stacked them neatly where we could find room.

The next year or two wasn't too bad, but as time went by, the labels on the boxes and the contents of the boxes no longer matched.

IMPROVEMENTS

In the airline catalog, we discovered a group of storage products that were decoration specific. Wreath boxes for wreaths - no more black plastic bags; ornament boxes with two levels of divided storage; a gigantic bag for our small artificial tree and garland; and a large flat bag for our very large wreath.

We continue to use our fliptop plastic boxes for many items, but adding a few new separate pieces helps make

things easier to store and find. Now our garland goes in large zipper storage bags that are duffel-like. Our ornaments go into red and white ornament boxes that have separators - two deep.

Hexagonal boxes are superb for protecting our wreaths. One of the problems we used

to have with wreaths was that they would often get damaged in plastic bags, and, if we used a box big enough to hold the wreath, it took up too much room. The hexagon-shaped wreath box is sturdy and storage-friendly.

We folded back part of the horizontal center separator in the ornament box so that we had a place for dolls and statues. It works well. The figurines are protected head to toe, and we don't have to use nearly as much tissue to protect them.

Here's what we ended up with:

■ We made H-shaped spools out of quarter-inch plywood (hard board also works) for our strings of lights, making sure to mark which string goes where - on the string and the holder.

They prevent the lights from becoming tangled and can be custom-made to fit both the lights and your favorite container.

Odd-sized items are stored in flip-top hard plastic boxes (we like the clear kind), but labeling will work if you are careful when putting things away.

All our small statues, dolls and ornaments go into special ornament storage boxes. The sleeves protect everything.

Our large garland and trees go into special zipper bags that won't wear out every year and are fitted with grips for easy handling.

Our wreaths now are securely protected in rigid boxes that are big enough for them, but not so big that they waste precious storage space. This is a real step up from garbage bags.

Our big wreath goes in a

special large, square flat bag that has carrying handles which double as hanging

So, we've found a few additional ways to make storing our decorations easier and less time consuming.

Now things won't be difficult to find.

For information on these items and more, go to www.improvementscatalog.co m and discover convenience. In the long run you will save money.

Readers can mail questions to: On the House, APNewsFeatures, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020, or e-mail Careybro@onthehouse.com.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

Publish: October 18, 2003

Continued From Page 6C

accordance with instructions from the Treasurer of the Issuer upon payment of the purchase price for the Bonds in accordance with the bid therefor when accepted.

3. Transfer of Bonds. The Transfer Agent shall keep the books of registration for this issue on behalf of the Issuer. Any Bond may be transferred upon such registration books by the registered owner of record, in person or by the registered owner's duly authorized attorney, upon surrender of the Bond for cancellation, accompanied by delivery of a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the Transfer Agent. Whenever any Bond or Bonds shall be surrendered for transfer, the Issuer shall execute and the Transfer Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds, for like aggregate principal amount. The Transfer Agent shall require the payment by the bondholder requesting the transfer of any tax or other

governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer.

4. Limited Tax Pledge: Debt Retirement Fund: Defeasance of Bonds. The Issuer hereby pledges its limited tax full faith and credit for the prompt payment of the Bonds. The Issuer shall each year budget the amount of the debt service coming due in the next fiscal year on the principal of and interest on the Bonds and shall advance as a first budget obligation from its general funds available therefor, or, if necessary, levy taxes upon all taxable property in the Issuer subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter tax rate limitations, such sums as may be necessary to pay such debt service

The Treasurer is authorized and directed to open a depositary account with a bank or trust company designated by the Township Board, to be designated 2003 LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS DEBT RETIREMENT FUND (the "Debt Retirement Fund"), the moneys to be deposited into the Debt Retirement Fund to be specifically earmarked and used solely for the purpose of paying principal of and interest on the Bonds as they

In the event cash or direct obligations of the United States or obligations the principal of and interest on which are guaranteed by the United States, or a combination thereof, the principal of and interest on which, without reinvestment, come due at times and in amounts sufficient to pay at maturity or irrevocable call for earlier optional redemption, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, shall be deposited in trust, this resolution shall be defeased and the owners of the Bonds shall have no further rights under this resolution except to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds from the cash or securities deposited in trust and the interest and gains thereon and to transfer

and exchange Bonds as provided herein.

5. Redemption of Prior Bonds: Proceeds of Bond Sale. The Project was originally financed with the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority designated "Charter Township of Canton Building Authority Building Authority (Golf Course) Bonds, Series 1993, dated April 1. 1993 in the original principal amount of \$5,700,000 and Charter Township of Canton Building Authority 1996 Building Bonds, dated as of October 1, 1996 in the original principal amount of \$3,500,000 (together the "Prior Bonds"). The Issuer proposes to issue the Bonds and utilize the proceeds to redeem the Prior Bonds in order to effect the purchase of the Project. Upon the sale of the Bonds the Township Treasurer is authorized and directed to open a separate depositary account with a bank or trust company to be designated by the Township Board to be designated LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS ACQUISITION FUND (the "Acquisition Fund") and deposit into said Acquisition Fund the proceeds of the Bonds less accrued interest and premium, it any, which shall be deposited into the Debt Retirement Fund together with any other monies necessary to effect the redemption of the Prior Bonds and the purchase of the Project. The moneys in the Acquisition Fund shall be used solely to pay the costs of the Project and the costs of issuance of the Bonds. Monies in the Acquisition Fund shall be transferred to a bank or trust company to be designated by the Township Board acting as the Escrow Agent (the "Escrow Agent") and shall be held as cash or invested in direct obligations of or obligations the principal of and interest on which are unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America or other obligations the principal of and interest on which are fully secured by the foregoing (the "Escrow Funds") and used to pay the principal, interest and redemption premiums on the Prior Bonds. The Escrow Funds shall be held by the Escrow Agent in trust pursuant to an Escrow (the "Escrow") which shall irevocably direct the Escrow Agent to take all necessary steps to call any Prior Bonds specified by the Issuer (or the Authority) upon the sale of the Bonds for redemption, including publication and, if necessary, mailing of redemption notices on any date specified by the Issuer (or Authority) the Prior Bonds may be called for redemption. The investments held in the Escrow Funds shall be such that the principal and interest payments received thereon will be sufficient, without reinvestment, to pay the principal, interest and redemption premiums on the Prior Bonds as they become due pursuant to maturity or the call for redemption required by this paragraph. Following establishment of the Escrow, any amounts remaining in the debt retirement fund for the Prior Bonds shall be transferred to the 2003 Debt Retirement Fund.

6. Bond Form. The Bonds shall be in substantially the following

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS SERIES 2003 Interest Maturity Date of Original Issue Registered Owner:

Principal Amount: Dollars The Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Issuer"), acknowledges itself to owe and for value received hereby promises to pay to the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, the Principal Amount specified above, in lawful money of the United States of America, on the Maturity Date specified above, unless prepaid prior thereto as hereinafter provided, with interest thereon from the Date of Original Issue specified above or such later date to which interest has been paid, until paid, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, first payable on

20__ and semiannually thereafter. Principal of this bond is payable at the designated office of . Michigan, or such other transfer agent as the Issuer may hereafter designate by notice mailed to the registered owner not less than sixty (60) days prior to any interest payment date (the "Transfer Agent"). Interest on this bond is payable to the registered owner of record as of the fifteenth (15th) day of the month preceding the interest payment date as shown on the registration books of the Issuer kept by the Transfer Agent by check or draft mailed to the registered owner of record at

the registered address. For prompt payment of this bond, both principal and interest, the full faith, credit and resources of the Issuer are hereby irrevocably pledged.

This bond is one of a series of bonds aggregating the principal sum of \$_ __, issued for the purpose of paying all or part of the cost of certain capital improvements for the Issuer. This bond is issued under the provisions of Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, and a duly adopted resolution of the Issuer.

[Bonds of this issue maturing in the years 200_ to 20_ inclusive, shall not be subject to redemption prior to maturity. Bonds or portions of bonds of this issue in multiples of \$5,000 maturing in the years 20_ and thereafter, shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the Issuer, in any order of maturity and by lot within any maturity, on any interest payment date on or after 1, 20__, at par and accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

In case less than the full amount of an outstanding bond is called for redemption, the Transfer Agent, upon presentation of the bond called in part for redemption, shall register, authenticate and deliver to the registered owner of record a new bond in the principal amount of the portion of the original bond not called for redemption.

Notice of redemption shall be given to the registered owner of any bond or portion thereof called for redemption by mailing of such notice not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the registered address of the registered owner of record. A bond or portion thereof so called for redemption shall not bear interest after the date fixed for redemption provided funds are on hand with the Transfer Agent to redeem said bond or portion

This bond is transferable only upon the registration books of the Issuer kept by the Transfer Agent by the registered owner of record in person, or by the registered owner's attorney duly authorized in writing, upon the surrender of this bond together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Transfer Agent duly executed by the registered owner or the registered owner's attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon a new registered bond or bonds in the same aggregate principal amount and of the same maturity shall be issued to the transferee in exchange therefor as provided in the resolution authorizing this bond and upon the payment of the charges, if any, therein prescribed.

This bond, including the interest thereon, is payable as a first budget obligation from the general funds of the Issuer, and the Issuer is required, if necessary, to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the Issuer for the payment thereof, subject to applicable constitutional and statutory tax rate limitations.

It is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required by law to be done, precedent to and in the issuance of this bond and the series of bonds of which this is one, exist and have been done and performed in regular and due form and time as required by law, and that the total indebtedness of the Issuer, including this bond, does not exceed any constitutional and statutory debt limitation.

This bond is not valid or obligatory for any purpose until the Transfer Agent's Certificate of Authentication on this bond has been executed by the Transfer Agent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer, by its Township Board, has caused this bond to be signed in the name of the Issuer by the facsimile signatures of its Supervisor and Clerk and a facsimile of its corporate seal to be printed hereon, all as of the Date of Original -CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, County of Wayne, State of Michigan -7. Negotiated Sale. It is hereby determined that in order reduce the costs of issuance of the Bonds, to reduce interest costs on the Bonds and to achieve efficiencies of sale that the Bonds be sold by means of private negotiation. Oppenheimer & Co. Inc be and is hereby selected as the underwriter (the "Underwriter"). The Township Supervisor is authorized to negotiate a bond purchase agreement (the "Agreement") with the Underwriter subject to the final approval of this Board.

8. Useful Life of Project. The estimated period of usefulness of the Project is hereby declared to be not less than twenty-five (25)

Tax Covenant: Qualified Tax Exempt Obligations. The Issuer shall, to the extent permitted by law, take all actions within its control necessary to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), including, but not limited to, actions relating to any required rebate of arbitrage earnings and the expenditures and investment of Bond proceeds and moneys deemed to be Bond proceeds. The Issuer hereby designates the Bonds as "qualified tax exempt obligations" for purposes of deduction of interest expense by financial institutions pursuant to the

10. Authorization of Other Actions. The Supervisor, Finance Director and the Township Clerk each is authorized to take all other actions necessary or advisable including the purchase of municipal bond insurance, and to make such other filings with the Michigan Department of Treasury, bond insurers or with other parties, to enable the sale and delivery of the Bonds as contemplated

11. The Supervisor is authorized to approve the circulation of a preliminary official statement describing the Bonds.

12. The Township hereby covenants to comply with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule") and appoints its Finance Director as its Disclosure Representative in accordance with the Rule. The Finance Director be and is hereby directed to provide annual disclosure in accordance with the Rule.

13. Rescission. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded. AYES: Members: Bennett, Burdziak, McLaughlin, Shefferly,

Yack, Zarbo NAYS: Members: None RESOLUTION DECLARED ABSENT: Kirchgatter ADOPTED. - Township Clerk -OTHER: There will be no study session next week. ADJOURN:

Motion by Bennett, Supported by Zarbo to adjourn at 8:34 pm. - Thomas J. Yack - Supervisor / Terry G. Bennett -Clerk -

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board approval.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community

Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Local, IntraLATA, InterLATA Telecommunications Service. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting the District's Consultant, Lynn Ingberg, of Plante & Moran, PLLC at (248) 223-3796 or by phoning Dan Phillips of the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Sealed bids are due on or before Monday, December 29, 2003 to the Plante & Moran Offices located at 27400 Northwestern Hwy., Suite #300, Southfield, MI 48034. Bids must be made "Attention To: Lynn Ingberg - Carrier Services Quote". The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: December 11 & 18, 2003

OE08171561

Western Townships Utilities Authority Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Synopsis 3:00 p.m. Monday, December 15, 2003

Regular meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Publish: December 18, 2003

Present: Thomas Yack, Steve Mann.

Agenda – adopted as presented.

Minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2003 - approved. Schedule of disbursement totaling \$966,069.83 - approved. Operations & Maintenance Report for November 2003 - received

Director's Report for December 2003 - received and filed. Personnel Policy; Sick Leave Addendum - approved. Appointment of 401(a) and 457 Pension Plans Trustee - approved. MDOT Performance and Indemnification Resolution - approved. YCUA Plant Expansion Update - received and filed.

THOMAS J. YACK This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices located at 40905 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187 (or) by visiting our website at WTUA.org.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for an IP Network Telephone System "Lease". Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting the District's Technology Architect, Dwayne Henderson, of Fanning & Howey, Inc. at (248) 848-0123 or by phoning Dan Phillips of the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, in Plymouth at 10:00 a.m. on December 18, 2003. Sealed bids will be due on or before 10:00 a.m. Monday, January 5, 2004 to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located at 454 South Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170 where the bids will be opened and read publicly. Interviews with the three low bidders will be conducted shortly after. Bids must be made "Attention To: Dan Phillips - Attn: "IP Telephone Bid". The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school

> **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: December 11 & 18, 2003

NOTICE OF SALE

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant to F.S. 713.78 on 12/23/03 at 10:00 A.M. 1JCWC7641FT071070

85	Jeep	Cheroke
89,	Olds	Cutlass
93	Pont	Grand A
91	Ford	Explorer
03	Niss	Maxima
87	Linc	Town Ca
97	Ford	F-150
92	Ford	Mustang
86	Olds	Cutlass
92	Olds	Achieva
88	Plym	Caravan
94	Olds	Royale
. 88	Ford	Taurus
86	Chev	S-10
83	BMW	

1G3WH14T7KD387578 1G2WJ14T8PF278299 1FMDU32XXMUD89158 JN1DA31A93T437816 1LNBM81F9HY685767 1FTDX1722VNB90811 1FABP41A3NF285916 2G3GR69Y8G2333488 1G3NF54N0NM436841 1P3BJ46K9JC231100 173HN5214R4807541 1FABP52110.IG144891 1GCCT14RXG2206668 WBAEB7403D6725545

Mayflower Auto Transport 1179 Starkweather Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 459-0053

Publish: December 18, 2003

Mail Copy To: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia M148150 Or Fax: (734) 953-2232

For Church Page Changes And Information Regarding Advertising In-This Directory, Please Call: Jean Etherington (734) 953-2160 THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

You Are Welcome At Tri-City Christian Center

3855 Sheldon Rd., Canton (Just N. of Michigan Ave.) 734-397-1777 • www.Tri City Christian.org

– Come Join Us

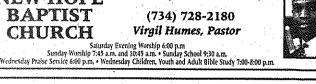
Worship Service & Children's Ministries Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am





NEW HOPE BAPTIST **CHURCH**

33640 Michlgan Ave. • Wayne, MI



Pastor David Washington like to invite you to ...

and the CCF Family would Canton Christian Fellowship

"Where the Word is Relevant, People are Loved and Christ is the Key" Join us for Worship Service at 10:30am Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00am
Located at 6500 N. Wayne Rd. • Westland, MI
Between Ford Road and Warren Road
Inside Good Shepherd Church

734-721-9322 It's not about Religion, it's about Relationships. Come to a place where lives are changed, families are made whole and ministry is real!

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **Traditional Latin Mass** St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph * (313) 534-2121

Mass Schedule: Fri. 7:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m. 7:30 & 9:30 a.m. Sat. Sun. Masses Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

451-0444 REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO Weekday Masses Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m. Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

ST. GENEVIEVE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL 29015 Jamison Ave. • Livonia East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rc MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 9:00 a.m., Tues. 7:00 p.m. • Sat. 5:00 p.m. Sun. 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon Confessions: Sat. 3:00-4:00 p.m. 734-427-5220

> **CHRISTIAN** SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 734-453-0970

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m Reading Room 550 South Main aday-Saturday 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 734-453-1676

CONGREGATIONAL

Mt. Hope

Congregational Church

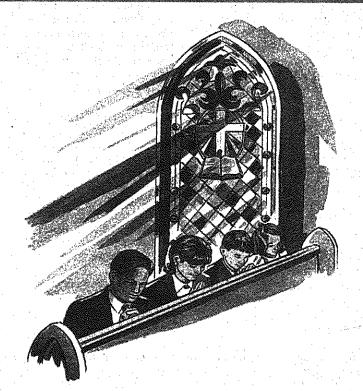
30330 Schoolcraft Livonia • 734-425-7280

(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Nursery Care Available
"The Church You've Always Longed For."



UNITED METHODIST

More Than Sunday Services... 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service

Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs Small Groups For Every Age Outreach Opportunities

Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Deborah Thomas First United Methodist Church

of Plymouth 15201 North Territorial Road (734) 453-5280

Catch the Spirit at

United Methodist Church 10000 Beech Daly, Redford Between Plymouth and W. Chicago Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-Pastors 313-937-3170

VORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m. Small and Cozy Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship Geared Toward Families With Children 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

From Frustration to Fulfillment Luke 2:1-7 Christmas Eve Family Choir Cantata 5:30pm Service with Communion 10pm **METHODIST CHURCH** Stephen Ministry Congregation 36500 Ann Arbor Trail een Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149

Clarenceville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 474-3444 Pastor James E. Britt

Worship Services 8:45 & 11:15 AM Sunday Eve. Bible Study 6:00 PM

Nursery Provided Sunday School 10 AM

ST. MATTHEW'S

UNITED METHODIST

Rev. Mary Margaret Eckhardt, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship &

Church School www.gbgm-umc.org/stmatthews-livonia Nursery Provided • 734-422-6038

Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Terry W. Allen

Rev. Barbara E. Welbaum visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A)

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA 16700 Newburgh Road Livonia • (734) 464-8844

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. http://www.StTimothvPCUSA.org Rev. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor

Rosedale Gardens

Presbyterian Church (USA)

5835 Sheldon Rd., Car (734) 459-0013 unday Worship & Sunday Schoo 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. July & August 10:00 a.m. Education For All Ages

Provided • Handicapped Accessibles for Hearing and Sight Impaired www.genevechurch.org

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Main & Church • (734) 453-6464 PLYMOUTH WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Dr. James Skimins Senior Minister Associate Minister Accessible to All Rev. Mary Jean Bird Associate Minister

Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program

Meets at Franklin H.S. in

Livonia on Joy Road Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Rev. Luther A. Werth, Senior Pastor Rev. Robert Bayer, Assistant Pastor

With Jesus Christ, love really can be all it was meant to be! **Early Childhood Center** Sunday Worship

Register now for Fall child care and preschool (734-513-8413) 8:30 am & 11:00 am Sunday School at 9:45 am Location Staffed Nursery for young children every Sunday

14175 Farmington Road (just north of I-96) www.christoursavior.org

HOSANNA-TABOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9600 Leverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Rev. Steve Eggers

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.

Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade

For more information call 313-937-2233

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

734-522-6830

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 13-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. **Sunday School** 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pas

The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pasto

Risen Christ Lutheran 46250 Ann Arbor Road (1 Mile West of Sheldon)

Plymouth + 453-5252 8:15 a.m. - Worship 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School (Adults & Children)

10:45 a.m. - Worship Pastor David Martin All are Welcome! Come as you are!

SALEM **LUTHERAN CHURCH** 32430 Ann Arbor Trail • Westland, MI 734 422-5550 Sunday Biblé Study

Rev. David W. Zeuschner, Pastor

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M. Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M. Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland

Kurt E. Lambart, Pastos Richard Schumacher, Principal/Youth Directo

Grace Lutheran Church 46001 Warren Road • just west of Canton-Center
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am

Sunday School at 10:45 am 734-414-7422

Our mission at Grace Lutheran is to make, teach and send out disciples who share Christ with all people.



LUTHERAN CHURCH

WISCONSIN SYNOD

st. paul's ev. Lutheran church & school 17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360 Sunday Worship

Services 6:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN **CHURCH IN AMERICA**

Timothy Lutheran Church 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)

Livonia • 427-2290 Sandra Daily, Pastor 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages) 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.) http://www.timothylivonia.com



9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, Mi (batween Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Contemporary Service 9:00 am

Traditional Service 10:30 am

We Welcome You To A Full Program Church

Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor ev. Kellie Bohlman, Associate Past

UNITED CHURCH

OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago Livonia 48150 • 421-5406

Rev. Larry Hoxey, Pasto 10:30 a.m. Worship

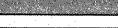
and Youth Classes

-WELCOME-

NON-DENOMINATIONAL



Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!



EPISCOPAL

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 16360 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154 421-8451 Wednesday 9:30 A.M., . Holy Eucharist

Wed (Sept.-May) 6:00 P.M..... ...Dirmer & Classes Saturday 5:00 P.M., Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 A.M. .Holy Eucharist Sun. (Sept.-May) 10:00 A.M.Sunday School Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available www.standrewschurch.net The Rev. C. Allen Kannapell Recto

> **EVANGELICAL** COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH (248) 661-9191 Sunday Worship

and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups . Adult Small Groups

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN



"just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Traditional Worship and Sunday School 7:55, 10:15, 11:30 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:05 A.M.

Nursery Provided During All Morning Worship Services Evening Service • 7:00 P.M. Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday

WMUZ 560 AM



CHURCHES OF

THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH

OF THE NAZARENE

45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.

Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-319

As we get older, it sometimes seems as it unite is accelerating. Lacifyour before, and perhaps this is just the wisdom of age reminding us how short our lives really are. Our busy schedules leave before, and perhaps this is just the wisdom of age reminding us how short our lives really are. Our busy schedules leave us little time for the things that we really value, and as we approach the year's end, the rush to prepare for the holidays exacerbates this feeling. We would like nothing more than to be able to spend time with our families and friends, but what we often end up doing is fighting the crowds at the mall in an attempt to finish up our last-minute shopping. Although the holidays are bound to be hectic, we shouldn't feel obligated to spend all of the time leading up to Christmas by shopping and going into debt. This year, consider telling your friends and family that you're going to have a modest Christmas with relatively few presents, and that what you really want to do is spend time with

God, who surely enjoys knowing that you like His company too. Since none of us know how long we have left here on earth, we should spend our time wisely.... What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. R.S.V. James 4:14

them. Telling your family and friends that you love them and that you enjoy their company may be one of the nicest gifts you give this year. Remember to also give your time to

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

DECEMBER

Living Nativity

5-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at the manger in front of St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster.

Christmas pageant

5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21 followed by a Christmas celebration/birthday party for Jesus complete with cake. Please bring a salad or side dish for meal, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on east side of Hubbard, between Five and Six Mile, call (734) 421-8451.

Christmas musical

"I Have Seen the Light: The Search for Christmas" features the First Baptist Church of Wayne Concert Choir and soloists 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) Sunday, Dec. 21, at First Baptist Church of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood, between Wayne and Newburgh, roads. No charge. For information, call (734) 721-7410, (734) 326-4342, or (734) 523-9288.

The Story of Christmas

The Merriman Road Baptist Church Adult Choir presents the musical 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at 2055 Merriman Road, two blocks south of Ford Road, Garden City. The musical will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. For more information, call (734) 421-0472.

The Christmas Basket

A production written by Terry Fairley and members of The Master's Bible Chapel 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at the Salvation Army Conference Center, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield. No charge. For more information, call (248) 357-2007.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas

The breakfast is scheduled 7-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, pancakes, sausage and beverage for \$4 with children age 7 and under free, purchase, at St.

Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Proceeds support the Noah project at Central United Methodist Church (feeding the hungry) and benevolent care at United Methodist retirement communities. For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

Christmas cantata

"Tell the Story" presents a heart stirring message for all ages 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Grace Baptist Church of Livonia, 28440 Lyndon, north of I-96 between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Child care will be provided and transportation is available by calling the church at (734) 425-6215.

Candlelight Christmas concert

Features classic and contemporary sounds of the season, and composer/pianist Omar Jon Ajluni performing original compositions and new arrangements of traditional Christmas favorites 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at The Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, 18100 Merriman, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia, \$25 adults, \$15 students. Call (734) 422-0010. Proceeds benefit St. Mary Academy for Children.

Children's Christmas service "Miracle at Midnight" tells the story of

the Savior's birth through music and drama 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830.

Santa's Favorite Christmas Story

Presented by the Abiding Presence Sunday School Theatre Guild during the contemporary service 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 1550 Walton, Rochester Hills.

Based on the book by Hisako Aoki and adapted by church member Susan Bantz-Gustafson, the play presents a unique interpretation of the Christmas story. For more information, call (248) 651-6550.

Advent services

Continue to Dec. 21, 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. services, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Families will light

DIBBLE

the Advent wreath and read scriptures. For more information, call (248) 476-8860.

Holiday services

Youth play 11 a.m. and adult play 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, and Candlelight service 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, Westland. Call (734) 721-9040.

A Christmas Cantata

Title "Emmanuel, Hope of Our Hearts" will be performed 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, 8828 Wormer, Redford. For information, call (313) 537-7480.

Service of HopeO

The program begins 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21. at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, The pastors will lead the service using the liturgy for a Service of Wholeness and Holy Communion for those who are grieving, have a major illness, have lost a job, or experienced any kind of loss or setback, For more information, call (248) 474-6170.

Advent Lessons & Carols Concert The event is scheduled 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Christ Episcopal Church, 120

N. Military at Cherry Hill, Dearborn. Call (313) 565-8450.

Candlelight Christmas Eve service

The service begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, two blocks south of Ford Road, Garden City. The service will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. For more information, call (734) 421-0472.

Christmas Eve services

Services begin Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. family service with music by Cherub and Wesley Children's Choirs, 6 p.m. community service with music by New Generation Choir, 8 p.m. metropolitan service "The Traditional Nardin Park Christmas Eve" with music by combined Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs, 11 p.m. candlelight service (a sacred communion service). at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 476-

8860.

More Christmas Eve Services

Family Christmas Celebration designed for families with young children (childcare provided for ages 2 and under) is scheduled at 4 p.m. At 9 p.m. and 1 p.m. candlelight services Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Trinity Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Call (734) 459-9550.

6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile. Northville. Call (248) 348-9030.

Services are at 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 1550 Walton, Rochester Hills. All services will have instrumental music for prelude beginning 30 minutes before each service of worship. The 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. services are by candlelight. For more information, call (248) 651-6550.

Family and candlelight services

7 p.m. (family) and 11 p.m. (candlelight) Wednesday, Dec. 24, with music by various choirs, and the brass ensemble, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road north of I-96, Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830. Begins at 7 p.m. with St. Andrew's **Episcopal Church providing special** music, Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m., at 10:30 p.m. the adult choir provides music before 11 p.m. Midnight Mass, on east side of Hubbard, between Five and Six Mile, call (734) 421-8451.

Christmas Eve at St. Matthew's

Services at 7 p.m. (more family oriented) and II p.m. (offering communion), St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-6038.

Christmas services

6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24 (Festive Family Eucharist), 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 25 (Holy Eucharist, and an Epiphany Evensong 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit.

10 a.m. is Holy Communion, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on east side of Hubbard, between Five and Six Mile, call (734) 421-8451.

Christmas Day service

10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 25, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175

Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. Features the Festival Choir and trumpets enhancing this celebration of the Lord's birth, Call (734) 522-6830.

Holiday shop

Global Gifts and Crafts Shop and UNICEF Card Shop continue offering items for sale through Dec. 20, at First Baptist Church, 300 Willits, Birmingham. Call (248) 644-0550. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Two hours of free parking are available in the municipal lot adjacent to the building as you enter the shop from the Bates Street door on the east side. One of the major suppliers again this year is American Baptist World Wide Gifts at Green Lake. These gifts come from worker cooperatives resulting

from the work of our ABC missionaries

Every \$1,000 in sales provides a means

for one family in the Third World to

and partner Baptist conventions.

support itself for one full year.

Christmas dinner

There is no reason to spend Christmas Day alone, St. Dunstan Catholic Church is inviting anyone who is alone or doesn't have somewhere to go to spend the day with them. If you know someone who will be alone, tell them about the dinner which begins at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 25, at 1616 Belton Avenue in Garden City. Doors open at 1 p.m. There is no charge but reservations are necessary. Please call (734) 425-3282 to RSVP or for more information.

Single Point Lighthouse Cafe

The Single Adult Ministries present a coffee house with live entertainment 7-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Cost is \$5. Hot dogs, goodies, and specialty coffered are offered. For more information, call (248) 374-5920. Free child care. , *

New Year's Eve service

6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile, Northville, Call (248) 348-9030.

New Year's Eve service

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175

Farmington Road, north of 1-96. Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830.

ONGOING

New worship service

Plymouth Bantist Church has added a second Sunday worship celebration. The new service times are 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Both services feature contemporary and traditional worship music and in-depth Bible teaching. Full nursery and preschool programs are also provided for both services. The church is at 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty. For more information, call (734) 453-5534.

Contemporary worship service

11:30 a.m. the fourth Sunday of the month at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-6038.

Worship services

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-1470.

Ablaze Young Adult Ministries

Presented by Detroit World Outreach 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Using cutting edge music, high-tech video and lighting, drama, multi-media, and a relevant message that can change lives, Ablaze is giving young adults ages 18 to 28 the opportunity to meet friends and hang out with people their age. Evening includes a live band, pool tables, ping pong, basketball, and the Motown Cafe in the Freedom Center on the Detroit World Outreach campus, 23800 W. Chicago near Telegraph, Redford. For more information, call (313) 794-0684 or visit the Web site at www.motownministries.org.

Redford Church

Detroit World Outreach, a non-denominational church for all colors at 23800 W. Chicago in Redford, has Sunday services 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. It also offers Sunday School 9:30-10:30 a.m. for all ages. Wednesday night is family night at 7 p.m. Tuesday night it offers a young adult services for ages 18-28 at 7:30 p.m. Bishop Jack C. Wallace is the senior pastor. Call (313) 255-2222.

ALLEN Bruce A., Dec. 16, 2003 Age 82 Veteran US Army WWII; received the Silver Star for action in France, Retired sales ndustries. Graduate of U of M: 4 year member of the Varsity Swim Team and President of Phi Upsilon Fraternity, Former member of the Detroit Golf Club. Beloved husband of Mary Joanne (Theisen) and the late Mary Jane. Dear father of Linda Manning, Judith McIntosh and Susan Huffman (Joseph). Stepfather of Michael Theisen (Kathleen), Kelly Theisen (Monica) and Patricia Moye. Monital and Patricia Moye. Brother of George Allen. Grandfather of Amy, Tim, Michael, Ashley, Noel and the late Meghan. Also survived by 7 step-grandchildren and 4 step-great grandchildren. Family will receive friends at reat grandchildren. will receive friends at Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13-14 Mile) Thursday, Dec 18, 3:00-8:00pm. Funeral Mass Friday-11:00am at St. Hugo of the Hills Stone Chapel, 2215 Opdyke Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Visitation begins at Church at 10:30am. Rite of Committal Woodlawn Cemetery. Memorial tributes Cemetery. Memorial tributes to Cranbrook Hospice, 281 Enterprise Ct., Ste 300, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 Share memories at: obit DesmondFuneralHome.com

BARTLETT

Edith Mae, Age 82 of Milford. December 13, 2003. Dear mother of: Janice (Bob) December 13, 2003. Lear mother of: Janice (Bob) Phillips, Ruth (Doug) Watson, and the late Valerie Cobb (d. 2002). 9 grandchildren. Also many loving nieces, nephews and dear friends. A Memorial Service will be held at First Baptist Church of Milford, 133 Detroit Street, Milford, Sunday Dec 21 at 2 mm. Pastor Steven. Dec. 21 at 2pm. Pastor Stever Swayze to officiate. For further information please call 248-684-6645 or website: www. LynchFuneralDirectors.com

BLAKE

Suzanne K., (Kapecki), age 99, of Farmington Hills, MI, formerly of Livonia, passed away Dec. 15,2003. She was born Sept. 22, 1904 in Lyndora, PA. Suzanne is sur-vived by three sisters & many. vived by three sisters & many nieces & nephews. Funeral service will be held Thursday, Dec. 18th at 12 noon at the Thaver-Rock Funeral Home. 113961-ROCK Funeral Holine, 33603 Grand River, Farming-ton, with Rev. Larry R. Austin officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, 10am until time of service, Burlal will follow in Holy Sepulch Southfield, MI. Sepulchre Cemetery,



DEWAR

Samuel L., Age 95, of Wickenburg, Arizona, and formerly of Plymouth, died of congestive heart failure December 12, 2003, in Arizona. He was horn November 29, 1002 Hancy Miller, Age 81, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec-ember 8, 2003 at Woodward Hills Nursing Home, Bloom-field Hills. Mrs. Dewar was born October 30, 1922 in was born November 28, 1908, in Cleveland, Ohio, He was a born October 30, 1922 in Traverse City, the daughter of Frank E. and Jesse N. Miller, Mrs. Dewar graduated from Traverse City High School in 1940 where she met her future husband, Robert Dewar, at the age of 14. They both attended Alma College for two years and were married on the Naval Base in Pensacola, FL, September 25, 1944. In 1945, they moved to the Detroit area. Personnel Executive for 20 years with General Motors Fisher Body and also worked in personnel at Ford Motor Company for 10 years. He was also a real estate broker/owner in Plymouth from the late 1960's until the 1980's when he retired and moved to Arizona. He was a former member of the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth they moved to the Detroit area where Mrs. Dewar was a supervisor of telephone opera-tors at Michigan Bell Telephone Company. They as well as Plymouth Kiwanis Club. He was a lifelong full classic auto buff and a salling later moved to Beverly Hills and Bloomfield Hills, where they raised their family, Mrs. enthusiast. He is survived by his son, Sam (Charlene) Dibble of Plymouth; his daughter, Dewar was a member of the Westchester Garden Club and Edyth Doran of Mississauga, Ontario: three grandchildren; and two great grandchildren. was Vice-President for a time in the 1960's. She was a memand two great grandsmidren. He is preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Friday 11am. Visit-ation Thursday 3-9pm. Inter-ment in Physical Compton Plymouth ber of Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills Country Club, Village Club and had a long association with the Michigan Opera Theatre. Mrs. Dewar served on the Board of Trustees of Alma College from 1974 to 1995 and was a member of the Board of Trustees. Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or to First Presby-terian Church, 180 N. Adams St., Wicken-burg, Arizona 85390. ber of the Board of Trustees o Maple Grove Rehabilitation Center from 1981-1990. Mrs Dewar had a lifelong interest in cooking and was once quoted in a newspaper as saying that

NOTENHOL

JOHNSTON

Marian Hartwig, Age 90, died Nov. 26, 2003 at Presbyterian Village East in Chestefield Township, Ml. Marian was born October 14, 1913 in Detroit, Ml A lifetime Detroit area resident, Mrs. Johnston also lived in Troy, Ml. A homemaker, (her late husband James C. Died in 1975), Marian was a sculptress/artist and a graduate of Liggett School, Detroit. Memberships include the Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit Golf Club, Plne Lake Country Club and the Village Club; Women's National Farm and Garden, Cranbrook Branch, Birmingham. Also All Saints Episcopal ham. Also All Saints Episcopal Church, Detroit. Mrs. Johnston is survived by a son, James C. (Leslie S.) Johnston Jr., of Birmingham and a grandson, David M. Johnston, one sister, Esther H. Holzbaugh of Roya Oak, Ml. Marian was preceded in death by two sisters, Evelyr H. Johnson and Harriet H. Sherwood; one niece, Ann Sherwood Bryant of Bloomfield Hills, MI. A funeral service is scheduled for Monday, December 22nd at 1:00 p.m. at Woodlaws, Cametay, Chanel Woodlawn Cemetery Chapel, Detroit. Officiating, the Rev. Fred C. Elwood, Rector of St. James Episcopal Church, Birmingham, Entombment will

her shopping, Saks and K-Mart. Mrs. Dewar is survived by her children, Robert E. Dewar, Jr., Jane Elizabeth Dewar and John Miller Dewar;

she only needed two shops for

daughter-in-law, Alison F. Richard: grandchildren Elizabeth Napier Dewar and

Charlotte Mary Dewar, sister, Dorothy M. Vanden Bosch; and brother-in-law, Otto Vanden Bosch. Mrs. Dewar is preceded in death by her husband, Robert E. Dewar and brother, Frank E. Miller, Jr. A memorial

service will be held at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills

Saturday, December 27th at 1 p.m. Memorials appreciated to Michigan Opera Theatre, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, MI 48226.

SULLIVAN

Michael D., age 44, Decembe 14, 2003. Son of Donald F

(Patricia) and the late June M. Sullivan; brother of Patricia F

Wilson; stepbrother of Steven and Timothy Mass; Susan Neyens. Memorial visitation, WM. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple Rd., Birmingham, Friday, 2-4 and 6:30 to 8:30 m. Memorial service. St.

p.m. Memorial service, St. James Episcopal Church, 355 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, Saturday 1:00 p.m. In lieu of

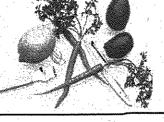
flowers, tributes may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Oncology Fund, 44405

Oncology Fund, 44405 Woodward Ave., Pontiac, MI

beriningnam, Entombrient Will be in Woodlawn Cemetery Mausoleum. Memorial gifts may be made to Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation for East Harton Hall, 33875 Kiely Dr. Chesterfield, MI 48047 Arrapements by 33875 Kiely Dr. Chesterfield, MI 48047. Arrangements by WM. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E.



Find your favorite recipes each Thursday in Taste



Observer

Subsidiary of HomeTown Communications Network

December 2003

Attention Carrier Collect Subscribers:

First of all, our Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Circulation Department would like to wish you and your family a very happy and healthy holiday season!

As you may already know, your carrier is collecting for the deliveries from the month of November. After this, he/she will only be collecting for one more month – the month of December. Then all of our billings will be done from our office in 3, 6, or 12 month increments.

This will allow you to take advantage of special in-paper promotions where you can enjoy an extra month or two of delivery at no extra charge. Senior citizens will also be able to take advantage of discounts when they notify us that they qualify for the Senior Discount. Our carrier collect system does not allow us to manage multiple rates whereas our office pay system does which will benefit you, the subscriber, with better subscription offers!

Your first bill for the month of January will be arriving later this month. Please send in your payment within 4 weeks of its receipt to insure uninterrupted delivery service of your Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. Please remember that WE DO GUARANTEE DELIVERY. If you are EVER missed (which we hope does not happen), please call our office - we'll run a replacement paper to you or credit your account. It's YOUR choice. We're open till 7 pm on Thursdays and until noon on Sundays. You can call us on Friday for a redelivery or on a Monday, tool

If paying in 3, 6, or 12 month increments isn't feasible for you, then please call our Customer Service Team at 1-866-887-2737 and we'll be happy to set up special arrangements for you.

You can include tips on the subscription payments you send to our office and they will be included on the carrier's compensation check. Or you can request that your carrier stop by for his or her tip.

Thank you for your continued readership of your local Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. We do appreciate you and all of our subscribers and readers!

Sincerely,

Director of Circulation

GENERAL OFFICES: 36251 SCHOOLCRAFT RD., LIVONIA, MI 48150 (734) 591-2300 www.observerandeccentric.com

HOME CALENDAR

Toy and hobby expo

The Toy and Hobby Expo will return to the Novi Expo Center, I-96 at Novi Road, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The expo will feature operating model railroad displays; vendors and collectors selling vintage toys; and trains, dolls and hobby items from the '50s to today's hottest collectibles.

Admission is \$7, free for children under 12 accompanied with an adult. Parking is \$5. For more information, call (734) 455

Home decor Haberman Fabrics, 905 S. Main in Royal Oak, presents home decor classes for a variety of levels of sewing

experience. You must register and pay tuition in advance, Call (248) 541-0010 for information.

The schedule includes Lampshades (fee is \$80), four Sundays beginning Jan. 4: Beginner Pillow (\$60), Mondays, Jan. 5-19; Simple Curtain (\$60), Tuesdays, Jan. 6-20; and Traditional Slipcover (\$120), Wednesdays, Jan. 7 to Feb. 11.

Hands-on clinics

Home Depot offers free, weekly howto clinics for do-it-yourselfers. Experienced associates provide stepby-step instructions during the clinics, which last 30 to 45 minutes. For information, contact your local Home Depot.

The December schedule features: You Can Remove and Install Wallpaper and Borders, 7 p.m. Tuesday; You Can Lay Ceramic Tile, 10 a.m. Saturday; You Can Try Power Tools Before You Buy Them, 2 p.m. Saturday; and You Can Apply Faux Paint Techniques, 2 p.m.

Visit the Observer online at www.hometownlife.com

Ford house

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

The elegant style of Eleanor Ford can be seen in the lovely decorations during this festive season at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lake Shore Drive (between Eight and Nine Mile) in Grosse Pointe Shores, now through Sunday, Jan. 4. Call (313) 884-4222 for more informa-

Shade plants

Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, will present the Cabin Fever Lecture Series, The series of lectures and book signings will begin 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, with Dan Hinkley of Heronswood Nursery as he presents The Connoisseur's Table: Exceptional

Plants for the Shade. He will share his favorite plants for the zone 5 shade garden.

Seating is limited and reservations are required. Cost is \$20 per person. For more information and to register, call (248) 332-6430.

While teaching horticulture at Edmonds Community College north of Seattle in 1987, Hinkley and his partner. Robert Jones, began Heronswood Nursery, near Kingston. Hinkley was devoted to introducing rare and unusual plants to gardeners of North America. Heronswood now has a yearly listing of nearly 3,000 plant species, and sends plants to 48 states, England and Asia.

Hinkley writes for a number of periodicals and appears regularly on Martha Stewart Living as a gardening correspondent.

If you have an item for the calendar, please submit it at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk. At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net.

Here are tips to help maintain your camera

™aking good care of your camera will assure that it will perform satisfactorily for you for many years. Here are some basic tips to help you out. ■ Never



Focus on **Photography**

Monte

Nagler

leave your camera in a very hot or very cold spot. Temperature extremes can warp delicate casings and fittings and distort mechanisms.

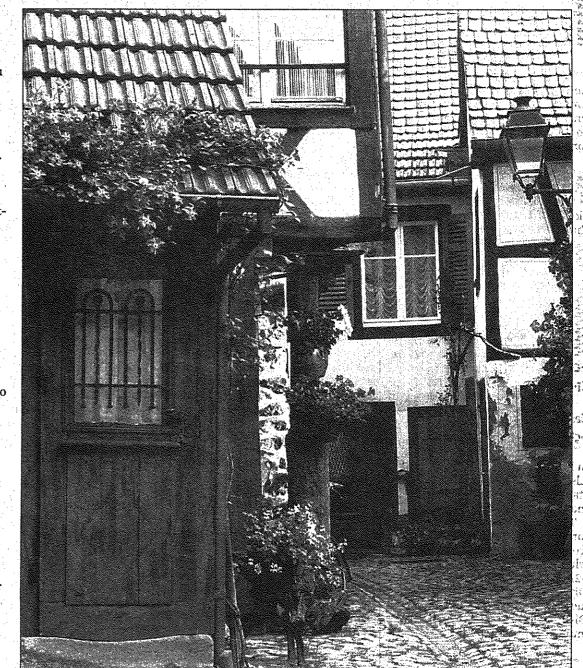
■ Keep the body free of dust and dirt. A soft cloth

works fine. I've found that Qtips dipped in film cleaner solution is an ideal way to reach those hard-to-get-at places on your camera. n It's easier than you think to

have a camera knocked accidentally from your hands or bumped into a solid object. Accidents or rough handling can cause severe damage, so always use a camera strap. Having your camera securely around your neck prevents accidents.

Most cameras are not waterproof and can be damaged significantly if water gets inside. Take care to protect both body and lens from water (especially salt water). If your camera should get wet from rain, dry it off immediately with a soft, clean cloth.

Do not touch the glass on the front or back of your lens. Fingerprints, if not removed right away, may eventually become permanent. Keep your lenses clean with lens cleaning tissue and lens cleaning solution.



There are no problems with Monte Nagler's carefully maintained camera. He took this picture in eastern France,

Store your camera in a dry, ventilated place. In fact, the original box with its moisture absorbing silica gel bag is an ideal means of safe storage.

If you're not going to shoot for a while, remove all batteries from your camera.

This will prolong their life and will eliminate any chance of battery corrosion which can damage your camera.

Try thinking of your camera as a best friend and treat it accordingly. If so, you'll enjoy a mutually rewarding and

satisfying relationship that will last for many years.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message at (734) 953-2047. His fax number is (248) 644-1314.



Happy Holidaus from your friends at the Observer & Eccentric!

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New clothing, personal care products, household items, bedding, linens, school supplies. cleaning products, non-perishable food and baby items

A family four-pack of movie tickets. Drawings will be held each week through 12/21/03 at all seven metro Detroit area Star Theatres

Now through Sunday, December 21, 2003 drop off your donations at any metro Detroit Star Theatre and register to win.

All donations benefit the people aided by First Step.

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Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

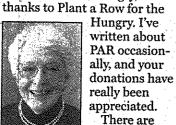


visit www.startheartres.com for theater locations and show information

Planting leads to feeding the hungry

Editor's note: Judges in 52-2nd District Court are looking for a new location for the community garden after neighbors complained that they feared for their safety.

any agencies received a tremendous amount of produce this year to provide food for the hungry,



many PAR gar-

dens in

Michigan.

some large,

some small:

too many to

Garden Spot

Marty Figley

mention, but one that began in May has had great success. Also, it is a unique idea for the state and it saves taxpayers

Thirteen years ago the idea for this type of garden came from Judge Michael Batchik who served at that time at the 52nd District Court, 1st Division in Novi. (He is now a judge in Clarkston in the 52nd District-2nd Division.) A community service garden resulted

in which first time and nonviolent offenders were offered the alternative of working in the garden rather than serving jail time. Thousands of pounds of fruits and vegetables have been donated to the Food Bank of Oakland County and several senior citizen facilities.

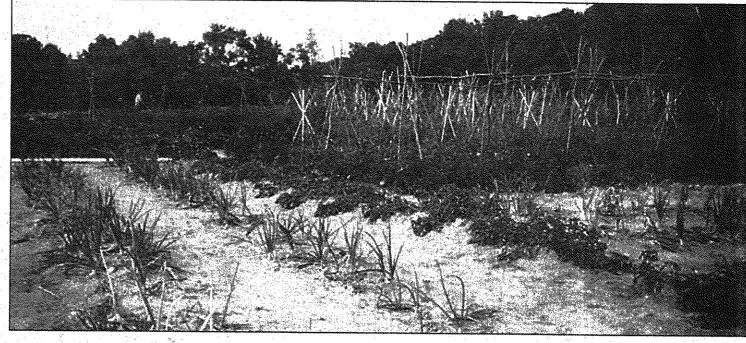
NEW GARDEN PLANTED

Batchik brought this idea along with him to Clarkston, and along with 52nd District Judge Dana Fortinberry, obtained approval of Independence Township officials to use space on the old McCord Farm for the garden which opened in May.

The house, outbuildings and property were donated to Independence Township. This year the garden produced well over 12,000 pounds of vegetables, which were donated to The Food Bank of Oakland County, the official recipient of this garden, and several senior citizen facilities. The Novi garden is still going strong.

This program is a win-win situation. It provides food for the

needy, is an alternate way for offenders to serve out their term, and has saved taxpayers more than \$85,000 in jail days for the incarceration of minor offenders. Instead, these indi-



A garden in Clarkston recently tilled fro the Plant a Row for the Hungry program generated more than 12,000 pounds of produce for the hungry this year.

viduals are put to work in the garden and charged \$15 per day for the privilege of working in the garden.

This year Weekend Alternative for Misdemeanors, which is under the direction of the Oakland County **Community Corrections** Department, volunteered to supervise the workers on site until such time as the garden produces an income sufficient to cover the cost of a garden supervisor.

The garden is only one of many projects throughout Oakland County in which WAM participates.

GROWING FOOD

It was no easy task to get this garden going because the land hadn't been plowed for 35

years. Private citizens donated innumerable hours of time, labor and equipment for plowing and tilling, garden tools, and seedlings. Corn, cabbage, broccoli, beets, onions, peppers, and other vegetables were harvested in the four-acre garden. Workers have been very innovative designing small herb gardens where basil, thyme and dill grow, and have surrounded them with the many stones found on the

This is just one type of PAR garden. Anyone can join the PAR team, you only need to share your extra produce when it is available. I'm often surprised when I mention PAR to someone that they have no idea what it is all about, but when I explain, they answer that they didn't

know about it (or couldn't use) all their vegetables, and they're "happy that they will be put to good use."

So, readers, spread the word

and get involved next year! Large or small, any amount you can donate will help. PAR began in 1995 and last year donated 1,377,295 pounds of produce. This national public service

campaign was developed by The Garden Writers Association to encourage gardeners to grow a little extra and donate the produce to local soup kitchens and food banks that serve the homeless and hungry.

PAR provides training support and materials to help ensure successful local volunteer campaigns that have a lasting impact. PAR will also

give you information about where to donate the food.

If you would like a brochure about this worthwhile program, call toll free (877) 492-2727. Visit PAR on the Web at Http/www.gwaa.org, or e-mail PAR@GWAA.org.

Here's how you can donate your garden produce next summer: The Food Bank of Oakland County accepts boxed or bagged produce at 130 E. Columbia, between Baldwin and Joslyn Roads, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. To donate at other times call (248) 332-1473.

Forgotten Harvest will send a truck to pick up donations of 50 pounds or more: call 248-350-3663, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Hardy Plant Society

The Hardy Plant Society will have its regular monthly meeting 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at Congregational Church of Birmingham, on Woodward iust south of Cranbrook Road in Bloomfield Hills.

Jim Mackinder of Natural Organic Landscapes LLC will share more than 40 years of gardening knowledge, including creating and maintaining your garden; minimizing working time; selection and care of tools; and finding sources of information. Guest fee \$2. Call (248) 589-2286 for information

Livonia Garden Club

The Livonia Garden Club will meet 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile and

Farmington Road. Glenda Glask, an expert orchid grower, will lead a program about this beautiful and fascinating flower. Visitors may

Beverly Hills Garden Club The Beverly Hills Garden Club will meet

Tuesday, Jan. 6, at the Beverly Hills Village Office, 18500 W. 13 Mile. Guests may attend. A membership meeting will take place 11:30 a.m. and the program, Water Gardens, by Agua Fina, will begin at 1

Winter birds

The Adult Education Program of the University of Michigan Matthaei **Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor offers** a variety of classes, including Winter Birds, Friday-Saturday, Jan. 2-3; fee is \$60 (\$54 for members), Call (734) 998-

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ng HelpLine. Casino Windsor reserves the right to cancel or change this o

When we planned our new Surgery Center, we asked the tough questions.

Like, "Why?" And, "Why not?"

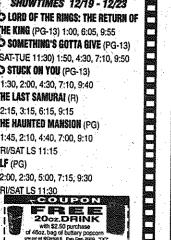
COMING SOON. The new Surgery Center at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital.

Why can't family and friends follow a patient's progress throughout the surgery? Why do hotels have concierges, but hospitals don't? Why can't surgeons have instant, electronic access to patient records? Why doesn't the operating room quickly adjust to the surgeon instead of making the surgeon adjust to it? Once we asked these questions, we came up with answers. Like a patient tracking system. A concierge service. Electronic record management. And state-of-the-art operating rooms that allow surgeons to adjust equipment, temperature and lighting at the touch of a button. The new Surgery Center at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. Proof that progress is a matter of asking the right questions.



Oakwood Annapolis Hospital — 33155 Annapolis Ave., Wayne, MI





Watch for winter Holly can do more than deck the halls fire hazards

Fire safety is no accident. Whether it's the glow of a single candle or the flames wrapping a bundle of wood in the fireplace, open flames can quickly turn from cozy to dangerous.

Fire safety is of special concern during the winter months when there is increased use of heat, electricity and appliances. Heating is the second leading cause of residential fires and fire deaths.

The U.S. Fire Administration offers the following tips to help reduce fire hazards in your home and protect you and your family in the event of a

Don't use the oven to heat your home; it's a fire hazard and source of toxic fumes.

ONLY use the fuel recommended by the manufacturer. Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot.

Space heaters need space. Keep combustibles at least three feet away from each heater.

■ Have your furnace and chimney professionally inspected annually and cleaned, if necessary.

Keep fire in the fireplace. Use a glass or metal screen in front of your fireplace.

Dispose of ashes in metal containers away from the home.

Don't put flammable decorations close to heat sources.

Don't overload your out-

If you use lit candles to decorate or in case of a power outage, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they can not be easily knocked over.

Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Having a working smoke alarm doubles your chances of surviving a fire.

Develop a fire escape plan with your household and practice it regularly. Know two ways to exit from every room in your home.

The United States Fire Administration, an entity of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and now a part of the Department of Homeland Security, is the federal leader in public fire education and awareness, fire service training, fire-related technology and data collection.

For further information on holiday fires or other fire safety topics, visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.fema.gov.

AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, tra-la-la. But wait, where's the

You don't see much Christmasy holly growing in many places.

holly?

Native American holly grows along the Atlantic coast and has the requisite spiny leaves

and red berries for Christmas. but its dull leaves and loose habit are no match for its better-dressed, trans-Atlantic cousin, English holly.

English holly has its own shortcomings, however, such as lack of cold tolerance.

We can thank Kathleen Meserve, a gardener from Long Island, N.Y., for greatly improving hollies.

Her efforts brought us a new,

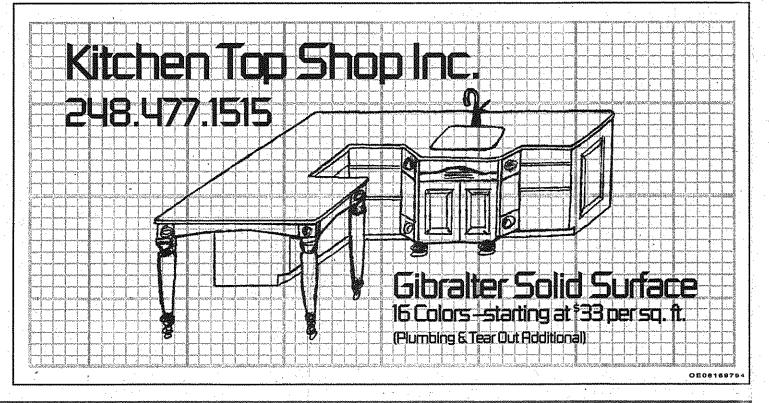
hybrid species, the Meserve hollies, which have glossy leaves and bright red or yellow fruits, and are hardy to 10 or 20 degrees below zero.

Variety names such as Blue Prince, Blue Princess, Blue Maid, and Blue Angel reflect the slight bluish cast to the leaves of Meserve hollies.

While she was at it, Meserve (subsequently Mrs. Leighton) also played around with

another species, the Chinese

Chinese holly is notable for its large, dark and shiny leaves as well as its heavy fruit crops. China Girl and China Boy are shrubs that are cold-hardy hybrids of Chinese and Tsuru hollies. As a group, hollies have a hodgepodge of virtues, so are worth considering for more than just "decking the halls" at Christmas.



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Sweet torte

This chocolate buttercream torte alternates layers of feather-light chocolate torte cake, hand-spread with smooth

> buttercream

and

rich,



dark chocolate buttercream. The handcrafted dessert brings new drama and rich flavor to

the table. Elegantly drizzled and decorated, the cake is available at Harry and David stores for \$59.95. Call (800) 547-3033 or click harryanddavid.com for more information.

New cookbook

Two local chefs are among 100 of America's best-known chefs who have contributed recipes and stories to Cooking from the Heart, Broadway Books, a division of Random House. \$29.95. Takashi Yagihashi, executive chef at Tribute Restaurant in Farmington Hills, and Jim Barnett, executive chef of Unique Restaurants,

are featured in the book. Proceeds from the book will benefit Share Our Strength, one of the world's leading antihunger and anti-poverty organizations. Other chefs featured are Emeril Lagasse, Sara Moulton, Mario Batali, Ming Tsal, Rick Bayless and Gale Gand.

Through Dec. 19, the **Epoch Restaurant Group,** which includes Tribute and Forte in Birmingham, is offering this cookbook for free (and signed by Chef Takashi) with the purchase of a \$150 gift card. The cookbook is available at local bookstores or by calling (888) 503-7624 ext. 307 or Tribute at (248) 848-9393 to order the book.

Recipes available The Michigan Food and

Beverage Association has created a recipe brochure on behalf of its members.

The recipes are available at no charge and consist of many holiday favorites published in coordination with the "Ask Your Neighbor" radio program and menus phoned in or malled to host Bob Allison.

Ed Deeb, president of the MFBA, said his organization worked with Allison's staff to make the recipes available. "Each year we are swamped with requests for these recipes," he said. "We send out more than 5,000 copies of the recipes which appear in newsletter format."

The recipes are published and distributed each year on behalf of the food industry, Eastern Market Merchants Association, and the Michigan **Business and** Professional Association.

To get your free copy of Favorite Holiday Recipes, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Holiday Recipes, in care of MFBA, 27700 Hoover Road, Suite 100, Warren,

Cookie

ew activities gather fami-lies or friends together during the holidays like baking Christmas cookies.

It's a fun tradition that allows everyone to get involved and creates memories. And it's a great way to delight your guests when you greet them with a beautiful platter of festive holiday cookies.

Cookie expert and home economist Ann Stuart of the Pillsbury kitchens tests cookies as part of her job. She also enjoys baking cookies at home with family.

"I can't think of a better activity than spending time in the kitchen, baking treats for loved ones, with loved ones," says Stuart. "To make the experience fun for everyone involved, I like to make an assortment of cookies that give all my helpers a simple decorating task.

Refrigerated cookie dough Mocha pecan balls combine cocoa and espresso granules. allows you and your family or guests to share in the fun of baking Christmas cookies without all the time and mess it takes to make them from scratch. Refrigerated dough and kits are a great solution during the holidays, whether you want to enjoy cookie baking with the kids as an afternoon's activity or make a special holiday treat in just minutes. They also offer cookie bakers an easy way to make a delectable assortment to take to parties, exchange with friends or have at home

for holiday guests. Pillsbury offers Ready to Bake! Shape Cookies, available in two festive styles, a snowman and Christmas tree. An easy decorating idea for the new Shape Cookies is to roll the edge of each cookie in colored sugar or candy sprinkles before baking to give them a colorful border. These cookies make a great option for moms who want a

quick, festive treat for kids. Christmas cookie kits are fun activities that simply require baking the cookies, frosting them and then topping each with the Christmas-themed Edible Image Decorations. Available in both sugar and chocolate chip, the kits contain 12 pre-formed cookies ready to place on your cookie sheet, vanilla Gold Medal frosting and 12 edible decorations.



PHOTOS BY PILLSBURY

turn to refrigerated cookie dough as a convenient shortcut, too.

from the new Pillsbury digest-size cookbook, Fun Ideas with Cookie Dough,

available at grocery and retail

The Sugar Cookie Kit fea-

tures colorful images of Santa

Claus, elves and reindeer,

while the Chocolate Chip

Cookie Kit includes a Santa,

Candy Cookies can make a

festive treat during the holi-

days, too. Just for the season,

the cookies are made with

red and green candy-coated

chocolate pieces, instead of

are 20 "place and bake" cook-

If you're planning holiday

cookie baking to create won-

serving or gift giving, you can

To get your cookie baking

started, try these quick ideas

derful cookie tray treats for

the variety of colors used other times of the year. There

ies in each package.

snowman, teddy bear and

jack-in-the-box toy.

Mocha Pecan Balls are an indulgent

treat perfect for the chocolate lovers at

your holiday gatherings. You simply

mix pecans, cocoa and espresso gran-

ules into the sugar cookie dough, and then wrap it around bite-sized chocolate pieces. Think Russian tea cake for chocolate lovers. Another popular seasonal cookie

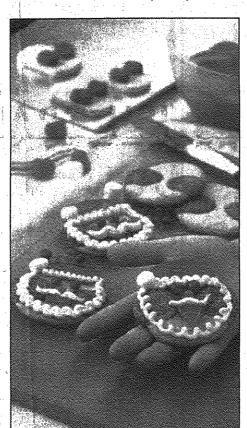
made easy using prepared cookie dough is the Jelly-Filled Thumbprint, a colorful addition to any holiday cookie tray. The sugar

cookie dough makes the preparation

Mix coconut into the sugar cookie dough for extra flavor, then form the dough into 1-inch balls. Using your thumb (or a wooden spoon handle), make an imprint in each cookie. After baking, use red jam or jelly to fill each imprint and drizzle with a vanilla top-

There's always time for bringing the family together for some fun Christmas cookie baking. Delight your family with these decorative and tasty ideas. And don't forget to keep a plate on hand for Santa.

For these and other holiday cookie recipes, please see page D2.



Baking Santa Claus cookies is an activity that can be enjoyed with children.

and quantity

could be met.

for their own

champagnes,

Growing grapes

members of the

Centre Vinicole

are involved in

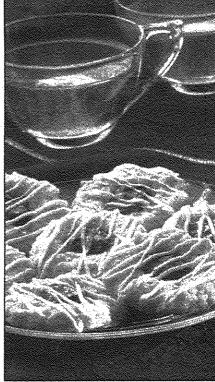
production from

every step of

vineyard to

SINGULARITY

corking.



These jelly-filled thumbprints are flavored with coconut and raspberry jam.

Luxury bubbles mark Nicolas Feuillatte

ach December since 1996, Focus on Wine has featured a French champagne producer, chosen by us, for the superior quality of the wine and for the interesting story behind the bubbles.

In prior years, the chosen champagne house has been one of long tradition. Not this year.

After the death of his father and the inheritance of vineyards in the Champagne region, Nicolas Feuillatte founded the brand in 1976. At the time, Feuillatte was something of an international bon vivant. His personal global connections literally sold the first releases by

word of mouth. Suddenly, production needed a nearly immediate increase without sacrificing quality. In a bold move that displayed steadfast confidence in his brand, Feuillatte sold it to the Centre Vinicole de la Champagne, one of Champagne's largest union of

producers. Once Centre Vinicole — Champagne Nicolas Feuillatte was born in 1986, it ensured . that demand for both quality

Focus on

Wine

Ray & Eleanor

Heald More than 5,000 growers from 84 local cooperatives supply grapes from greater than 7 percent of the limited Champagne growing region. The Centre Vinicole -Champagne Nicolas Feuillatte is the leading producers association and today is the third largest champagne producer in

the region. Without the worry of grape supply, Champagne Nicolas Feuillatte, under the veteran leadership of its winemaker Jean-Pierre Vincent, has been able to explore the fine art of champagne making.

Additionally, of the top champagne brands on the international scene, Champagne Nicolas Feuillatte is the only house whose founder is alive and actively involved. As is the case with globally

recognized champagne houses, Nicolas Feuillatte offers a range of prices from \$26 to \$170 per bottle. The better the grapes, the more luxurious the bubbly and the higher the price. However, among French champagnes in the \$26-\$40 price range, Nicolas Feuillatte has few challengers. And at the high end, the same may be said for Cuvee Palmes d'Or.

Nicolas Feuillatte Champagne Cuvees:

NV (non-vintage) Brut Premier Cru (\$26) is a creamy and delicious bubbly to serve with seafood.

NV Brut Rose Premier Cru (\$40) tantalizes with the scents of strawberries, red raspberries and blackberries. Splendid as an aperitif, it's a good choice to serve with a red fruit-based dessert.

NV Blanc de Blancs Brut Premier Cru (\$40) is 100 per-

WINE PICKS

In our recent champagne tasteoff, these wines scored at the top: ■ 1996 Bollinger Grande Annee,

\$90 ■ 1996 Veuve Clicquot Vintage

Reserve Rose, \$70 ■ 1996 Veuve Clicquot Vintage Reserve, \$60

NV Ruinart Champagne Brut,

\$48 NV Bollinger Special Cuvee,

\$45 All wines mentioned are

available in the metro-Detroit area. If a retailer does not stock a specific wine, ask that it be ordered from the distributor.

cent chardonnay in a creamy smooth pour with an intriguing almond aroma. Perfect for seafood with a cream sauce.

■ 1995 Cuvee Speciale Brut (\$70) displays the house style with vintage character. Pear notes heighten the aroma complemented by spicy nuances and hints of dried pears and apricots.

■ 1995 Cuvee Palmes d'Or (\$125) is a blend of half chardonnay and half pinot noir from nine different crus in a great vintage. "It's designed as best of the best of the year," said winemaker Vincent. For a special event or a gift for a special someone, this sumptuous pour is perfect.

1996 Cuvee Palmes d'Or Rose (\$170) blends pinot noir from two different champagne areas. Depthful, rich and ele-gant, it has a solid fruit core and delicious finish.

Littlough sales of French wares have declined in the United States since the dawn of the wew millennium, champagne shipments rose nearly 10 percent in the first half of 2003. Proof that when it comes to champagne, the French hit the mark.

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HOLIDAY COOKIE RECIPES

SANTA CLAUS COOKIES

- 1 (18 ounce) roll Refrigerated Sugar Cookies (such as Pillsbury)
- 2 tablespoons red decorator sugar 1-1/4 cups vanilla ready-to-spread frosting (from 16-ounce
- ½ teaspoon red concentrated paste icing color 16 miniature marshmallows, cut in half crosswise Assorted candies
- Heat oven to 350°F. Cut cookie dough in half crosswise. Work with half of dough at a time; refrigerate remaining dough until ready to use.

Cut each half of dough into/-inch-thick slices, reshaping each into a round. For each cookie, cut narrow strips from opposite sides of slice. Place larger piece on ungreased cookie sheet. Shape dough strips into balls; roll in red sugar. Place ball of dough on each cut side, % of the way down, on inside edge of cookie to form cheeks; press gently so balls almost touch. Repeat with remaining slices, placing 2 inches apart on cookie sheets. Bake for 7-11 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool 1 minute; remove from cookie sheets. Cool 10 minutes or until completely cooled.

Place/2 cup of the frosting in small bowl. Add red icing color; blend well. Frost top of each cookie with red frosting for hat. Add marshmallow half, cut side down, for tassel on "hat."

Place remaining frosting in decorating bag fitted with writing tip, or in small resealable plastic bag with small hole cut in bottom corner of bag. Pipe white frosting around remaining cookie edge for beard and across bottom of "hat." Attach candies with frosting for eyes, nose and mouth. Pipe white frosting for mustache. Makes 32 cookies.

Nutrition Information Per Serving (one cookie): Calories, 140; calories from fat, 35; total fat, 4g; saturated fat, 2g; cholesterol, Omg; sodium, 55g; total carbohydrate, 25g; dietary fiber, Og; sugars, 19g; protein, 1g.

JELLY-FILLED THUMBPRINTS

- 1 (18-ounce) roll Refrigerated Sugar Cookies
- 1 cup coconut
- ½ cup seedless raspberry jam or red current jelly 1/2 cup white vanilla chips

Heat oven to 350°F. Break up cookie dough into large bowl. Add coconut; mix well.

Shape dough into 1-inch balls; place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. With thumb or handle of wooden spoon, make indentation in center of each cookie. Spoon about $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon jam into each indentation.

Bake for 10-13 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Immediately remove from cookie sheets; place on wire racks. Cool 5 minutes.

Place white vanilla chips into small resealable plastic bag; partially seal bag. Microwave on High for 45-60 seconds. Squeeze bag until chips are smooth. If necessary, microwave an additional 10 seconds. Cut small hole in bottom corner of bag. Squeeze bag gently to drizzle melted chips over cookies. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Nutrition Information Per Serving: Calories, 90; calories from fat, 25; total fat, 3g; saturated fat, 2g; cholesterol Omg; sodium, 55mg; total carbohydrate, 15g; dietary fiber, 0g; sugars, 10g; protein, 1g.

Mocha Pecan Balls

- 1 (18-ounce) roll Refrigerated Sugar Cookies
- 1/4 CUD unsweetened cocoa
- 1 tablespoon instant espresso granules
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans 48 Hershey's Kisses milk chocolates, unwrapped
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar

Heat oven to 375°F. Break up cookie dough into large bowl. Add cocoa, espresso granules and pecans; mix well.

Shape dough into 48 (1-inch) balls; wrap each around 1 milk chocolate candy. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets.

Bake for 8-10 minutes or until set. Immediately remove from cookie sheets. Cool 5 minutes or until slightly cooled. Roll cookies in powdered sugar. Cool 15 minutes or until completely cooled. Reroll cookies in powdered sugar. Store tightly in covered container. Makes 4 dozen cookies.

Nutrition Information Per Serving: Calories, 95; calories from fat, 45; total fat, 5g; saturated fat, 1g; cholesterol, Omg, sodium 40mg, total carbohydrate 12g, dietary fiber 0g; sugars, 9g; protein lg.

Recipes courtesy of Pillsbury.

Apple, spices add flavor to cookies

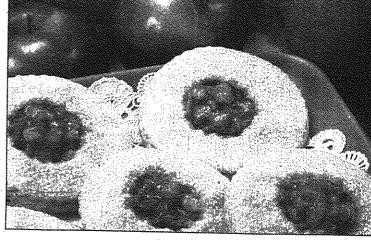
Here is another cookie recipe to make your holiday gathering a little sweeter.

APPLE FILLED SUGAR COOKIES

- 3-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt 1 cup margarine, softened
- 1-1/2 cups sugar 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg 1 can (20 ounce) apple pie filling 1-teaspoon-apple pie epice

Stir together flour, baking powder and salt. Set aside. In a large mixing bowl, beat together margarine, sugar, vanilla and egg until thoroughly combined. Add flour mixture, stirring until combined. Cover and refrigerate about 1 hour. While dough is chilling, place apple pie filling in small bowl. With knife, cut apple slices into small pieces. Stir in pie spice. Set aside. Roll half of dough on floured surface to/s-inch thickness. Cut into 3inch circles.

Place on baking sheets coated



Apple-filled sugar cookies with hot butterscotch cider are special treats.

with cooking spray. Portion 1 tablespoon apple filling in center of each cookie. Cut 1-inch hole in center of remaining cookies. Place over apple filling on cookies, pressing edges slightly. Continue with remaining dough and apple filling.

Bake at 375°F about 12 minutes or until edges are lightly browned and cookies are set.

Cool on baking sheets. Dust with powdered sugar before serving, if desired. Yield: 32

cookies, 31/2-inches in diameter. Nutritional information: 1 cookie: 140 calories, 6g fat, 10mg cholesterol, 140mg sodium, 21g carbohydrate, less than 1g dietary fiber, 2g protein.

Recipe courtesy of Michigan Apple Committee.



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Gingerbread is icing on the cookie

BY DANA JACOBI CORRESPONDENT

For Christmas, my mother always bought an elaborate gingerbread house. Some cooks like to make their own, but this can be time-consuming. If you prefer eating gingerbread to looking at it, iced gingerbread cookies are a better project, one that pays off twice.

First, these cookies are enjoyable even before the holidays. Children as young as five can mix the icing and drizzle colored sugar onto the baked cookies, turning them into sparkling stars, wreaths and round baubles.

Turning out a good size batch of cookies requires a full afternoon, or a long evening, as the dough has to chill, and the cookies must cool completely before they are iced. Or, you can make the cookies in one session, then ice them up to several days later. They store beautifully in an airtight metal container.

These gingerbread cookies are healthier than most. The dough is one-third whole-wheat flour, which gives the cookies good snap, both in flavor and texture. Just make sure to get wholewheat pastry flour, and be sure to flour your work surface and the rolling pin generously. Making the icing with milk instead of egg whites makes it creamier, easier to spread and

GINGERBREAD COOKIES WITH HOLIDAY ICING

2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour 1 cup whole wheat pastry flour ½ teaspoon baking soda 2 teaspoons ground ginger 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon ¼ teaspoon ground allspice 1/4 teaspoon ground cardamom 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter. ½ cup packed light brown sugar ½ cup unsulphured molasses 1 large egg 11/2 cups confectioners' sugar, sifted

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract 2/r4 tablespoons 2 percent (reduced fat) milk Colored sugar, sprinkles, and/or silver dragées

In a bowl, mix together both flours with baking soda, ginger, allspice, cardamom, cloves and pepper; set aside. In another bowl, beat butter with sugar until fluffy. Beat in molasses, then the egg. (The mixture may look slightly curdled.) At low speed, mix in half the dry ingredients until well-

Mix in remaining dry ingredients until dough is

PRNewswire - More and

one that includes a nutritious diet, regular exercise and a posi-

tive approach to living. For

many, the motivation to make

these changes is influenced by

the importance of health and

Maintaining these goals can be

especially tough during the win-

A healthy eating plan is suc-

cessful and enjoyable when vari-

ety and flavor are incorporated.

tin is a refreshing and fruity

"Sugar Free JELL-O brand gela-

treat that contains zero carbohy-

drates per serving and makes a

delicious dessert or snack," says

Normajean Longfield, Senior

Consumer Food Manager for

Kraft Foods. Longfield contin-

and only ten calories per serv-

ing. With all of those fun and

fruity flavors, it can satisfy any

sweet tooth without compro-

the refrigerator at home for a

wiggly treat during the day, or

enjoy it on the go in a conven-

cup. A snack with zero grams of

carbohydrates per serving never

Gelatin is also great for making a variety of low-calorie

recipes, with 5 grams of carbo-

hydrates or less per serving. The variety of combinations is

almost endless-and is helpful to

ient ready to eat refrigerated

tasted so good!

Prepare a bowl and keep it in

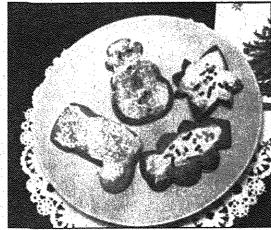
mising on nutrition goals!"

ues, "It's also fat free, sugar free,

weight management.

ter and holiday months.

more people are trying to achieve a well-balanced lifestyle,



Arrange a rack in the upper and lower third of the oven. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease the cookie sheets or cover them with baking parch-

Using a lightly-floured rolling pin and a wellfloured surface, roll out one rectangle of dough to/-inch thickness. If dough cracks, smooth it together with your fingertips. Working quickly, cut dough into 2/2-inch rounds or stars. Place cutout pieces on one of the prepared baking sheets.

Repeat this process with the second rectangle of dough and baking sheet. (If desired, gather up scraps of dough and press together with hands into a rectangle.

Wrap in plastic wrap, set in refrigerator to chill and roll out later to cut out and bake more cookies. There should be enough to bake one more sheet of cookies, for about 12 minutes.)

Bake cookies 6 minutes. Reverse position of baking sheets. Bake 4-6 minutes or until cookies are barely colored at edges. Transfer cookies to wire rack and cool completely.

Sift confectioners' sugar into a bowl. Mix in vanilla and 2 teaspoons of the milk. Add more milk gradually until icing can be spread on cookies and drizzled from a spoon. Ice cookies and decorate with colored sugar, sprinkles, and dragées.

Makes 36 cookies.

Gelatin a great-tasting approach to season

getting one tasty step closer to

% cup boiling water

ice cubes

thickened.

or until firm.

1/2 cup cold water

living well. Visit www.jell-o.com

1 package (4-serving size) JELL-0

Strawberry-Banana Gelatin

1 cup pureed strawberries

VERY BERRY JELL-O.

Brand Sugar Free Low Calorie

Stir boiling water into gelatin in medium bowl at least 2 minutes

until completely dissolved. Add

stir until slightly thickened. Remove any unmelted ice. Refrig-

enough ice cubes to cold water to

measure 1-1/4 cups. Add to gelatin;

erate 10 minutes or until slightly

Stir in fruit. Pour evenly into 6

dessert dishes. Refrigerate 2 hours

Nutrition Bonus: Strawberries provide

Nutrition information per serving: 15

calories, Og total fat, Og saturated fat, Og polyunsaturated fat, Og monounsat-

urated fat, Omg cholesterol, 35mg sodi-

FAT FREE JELL: 0 10 MINUTE FRUIT

WHIP

1 package (8-serving size) or 2

packages (4-serving size each)

JELL-O Brand Orange Flavor

Sugar Free Low Calorie Gelatin

1 cup cold orange juice

um, 3g carbohydrate, less than 1g

dietary fiber, 2g sugars, 1g protein.

1½ cups boiling water

Ice cubes

an excellent source of vitamin C.

Nutritional information per serving: 104 calories, 3 g. total fat (2 g. saturated fat), 19 g. carbohydrate, 1 g. protein, less than 1 g. dietary fiber, 23 mg. sodium.

Dana Jacobi is a recipe writer for the American Institute for Cancer Research.

1 can (11 ounces) mandarin

Stir boiling water into gelatin

in large bowl at least 2 minutes

until completely dissolved. In a

measuring cup, add enough ice

cubes to orange juice to measure

2 cups. Add juice to gelatin; stir

Spoon orange segments even-

ly into 10 dessert glasses or one

Gradually pour gelatin mixture

Refrigerate 45 minutes or

frothy layer forms on top with a

Great Substitute: Prepare as

directed, using your favorite fla-

Calorie Gelatin and 1 cup fresh

fruit, such as raspberries, blue-

berries or sliced strawberries, or

vor JELL-O Sugar Free Low

your favorite drained canned

Nutrition Bonus: This is a low calorie,

fat free dessert. The combination of

orange juice and mandarin oranges

provides a rich source of vitamin C.

Nutrition Information Per Serving: 25

calories, Og total fat, Og saturated fat,

Og polyunsaturated fat, Omg choles-

terol, 25mg sodium, 5g carbohydrate,

less than 1g dietary fiber, 4g sugars,

less than 1g protein.

Recipes courtesy of JELL-0.

until set. (As gelatin sets, a

clear layer on the bottom.)

until ice is partially melted.

Blend mixture on medium

large glass serving bowl.

speed 30 seconds.

over fruit.

fruit.

Place in a blender and cover.

orange segments, drained

Children can mix the icing and drizzle colored sugar onto the baked gingerbread cookies. thick enough to be shaped. Divide the dough into two. Place each on a sheet of wax paper. Shape each portion of dough into a 1-inch thick rectangle. Wrap and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled, 2 to 24 hours.

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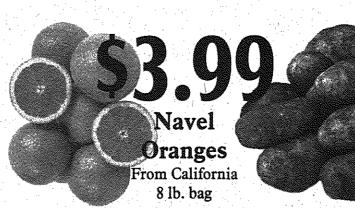
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Want to surprise your family? Try a little pizza bread

Looking for a popular dish with a surprise to make for your family? Combine Italian dressing and eggs with original Bisquick to create a pizza-like crust with new dimensions - it has an Italian flavor and puffs

It's so quick to make. No need to rest the batter. It rises as it bakes. Mix and immediately spread the batter into the pan. Then, simple add the sauce, pepperoni and cheese.

Pepperoni Pizza Bread bakes in less than 20 minutes for a weeknight supper that's sure to please your family.

PEPPERONI PIZZA BREAD

1-1/2 cups Original Bisquick mix 1/3 cup Italian vinaigrette dress-

3 eggs 1 can (8 ounces) pizza sauce 1 package (3.5 ounces) sliced pepperoni

1 package (4 ounces) shredded Italian-style blend or mozzarella cheese (1 cup)

Heat oven to 425 degrees F. Spray 13-by-9 inch pan with cooking spray. Stir Bisquick mix, dressing and eggs in medium bowl until blended. Spread batter in pan. Spoon sauce over batter; top with pepperoni and cheese. Bake 17 to 19 minutes or until edges of crust are golden brown. Makes 10 servings. Recipe courtesy of General Mills.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

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TASTE CALENDAR

Please submit items at least two weeks in advance of the date it should be published. Send to Ken Abramczyk. Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E, Maple, Birmingham, 48009 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Health System conducts cooking class-

Super soups M-Fit of the University of Michigan

es in January, including one on soups 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7 at the East Ann Arbor Health Center Demonstration Kitchen, 4260 Plymouth, in Ann Arbor. Soups are easy as they can be made in one pot and they fill you up with several vegetables without a lot of calories. Learn how to make Thai chicken soup, wild mushroom and barley soup, magenta beet soup with dill, corn chowder with scallops and stewed figs with honeyyogurt sauce with instructors Kathy Goldberg and Lizzie Burt, Wonderful Winter Vegetables will be taught 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21 by chef Aaron Wynn. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$30 per person or \$50 for two people attending together. Call Nicole Goyarts at (734) 975-4387, ext. 236 or

Slow food

sion up on line at

www.mfitnutrition.com

Save valuable time by using your slow cooker to make fabulous meals for your family and friends while you work

and play. The inexpensive ingredients become succulent when simmered slowly all day. Move over fast food, it's time to slow down as you'll learn about the following dishes: navy beans with smoked turkey sausage, osso bucco (Italian braised veal shanks), aromatic Thai chicken with vegetables and dried plums in sweet wine. Taught through M-Care, University of Michigan Health System, the class is scheduled noon-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3 at East Ann Arbor Health Center Demonstration Kitchen, 4260

Plymouth. Cost is \$30 per person or \$50 for two people attending together. Call Nicole Goyarts at (734) 975-4387. ext. 236 or sign up on line at www.mfitnutrition.com

Warm winter salads

Learn some delicious and tantalizing salad recipes, such as German potato salad; roasted root vegetable salad; warm baby spinach and mushroom salad with ponzu dressing; apple, onion and walnut salad over a bed of field greens with warm cider dressing. Students will sample and take home recipes. Julie Boik is the instructor. The class meets Monday, Jan. 12, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Fee is \$22. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street in Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

Heavenly hors d'oeuvres

Discover how to make a beautiful array of bite-sized creations designed to impress but not stress. The class will make ginger seared shrimp on crisp wonton, vegetable spring roll, caviar and crème fraiche on blini and caramelized onion on goat cheese tart. Instructed by Peter Engelhardt, executive chef for The Community House, the class meets 7: 30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 26. Fee is \$23. **Great grains**

Are you tired of the same old starches like pasta, potatoes, and rice? Discover how to make quick and healthy side dishes using unique grains such as couscous, quinoa (a South American grain) and risotto. Freeman E. Gunnell's culinary education has been under the direction of renowned chefs including Jimmy Schmidt,

Wolfgang Puck and Madeleine Kamman. Freeman's well-rounded career includes working as chef de cuisine and as a pastry chef in gourmet restaurants as well as corporate and private settings. Freeman was recently awarded the prestigious International Association of Culinary Professionals pastry award to study at Ecole Lenotre in Paris, France. Class is 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27. Fee is \$22. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, 248/644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.



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Top salmon burgers with tomato relish

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A "carefree" recipe from Rick Rodgers - what could be more welcome for cooks these busy days?

Rodgers, author of the popular "101 cookbooks" series and other cookbooks, focuses his new The Carefree Cook (Broadway Books, 2003, \$29.95) on making life easier for cooks. It promises "more than 150 hassle-free recipes for cooking every day."

However, Rodgers points out that the book is not about cooking with less than five ingredients, or getting dinner on the table in 15 minutes, although where feasible he's kept ingredient lists short, and has identified some recipes that can be made in less than 30 minutes. There's a place for "slow food," too, he says, and

the benefits of slow cooking. His recipes are mostly for weeknight-style dishes, although he points out that some could function as dinner party courses, too. His introduction, with basic information and tips, is followed by a

complete range of recipes, from soups through desserts.

Introducing the following recipe, he explains that the fatty flesh of salmon is perfect for grinding and grilling into seafood burgers. The tomato relish adds tang, and arugula provides a peppery note, Use a soft roll, as these burgers are not as firm as ground beef.

SALMON BURGERS PROVENCALE WITH TOMATO RELISH

For Tomato Relish:

1 ripe large tomato, seeded and cut into/rinch dice 1 tablespoon finely chopped

shallot 1 tablespoon sherry vinegar or balsamic vinegar 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive

Sait and freshly ground black pepper to taste

For the Burgers: 1/2 pounds skinless salmon fillet. cut into 1-inch chunks 2 tablespoons pesto, homemade or store-bought ½ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil 4 soft rolls, split

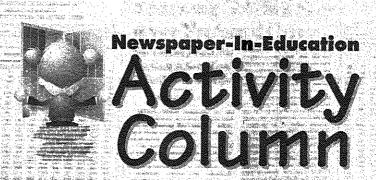
12 large arugula leaves or 4 redleaf lettuce leaves

To make the relish: Mix the tomato, shallot, vinegar and oil in a small bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Set aside while you prepare the salmon.

Place the salmon, pesto, salt and pepper in a food processor and pulse until the salmon is finely chopped. Rinse your hands under cold water, and form the salmon mixture into 4 patties about 4 inches wide.

Heat the oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the patties and cook until the underside is lightly browned, about 1/2 minutes.

Turn and cook until the other side is lightly browned, about 11/2 minutes for medium-rare salmon burgers; do not overcook. For each sandwich, place a burger on the bottom half of a roll and top with a spoonful of the tomato relish, 3 arugula leaves, and the top of the roll. Serve immediately. Makes 4 sandwiches.



First of all, we want to wish you a happy holiday season. We have Hanukkah beginning on Saturday, December 20th, Christmas is coming next Thursday, and Kwanzaa begins on Friday, December 26th. Write a news story about the three holidays and list the things they have in common as well as how they differ.

The first crossword puzzle was published 90 years ago on December 21st. Create a crossword puzzle of your own using words from today's paper! Why do you think crossword puzzles have remained popular for so long?

From the Circulation Department of the Observer & Eccentric we want to wish you a happy holiday season. When you return from the holidays, we'll have a new Newspaper-in-Education Contest to kick off in order to celebrate Newspaper-in-Education Week which is always held the first full week in March!

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Observer & Eccentric

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Cherries may relieve pain

Tart cherries pack a health promoting punch. Ongoing research shows that tart cherries are a rich source of antioxidants, including melatonin, which may help to relieve the pain of arthritis and gout.

To date, no other fruit or vegetable has been found to have the pain relieving properties of tart cherries, according to the Cherry Marketing Institute in Lansing. In addition, the antioxidants in tart cherries can help fight cancer and heart dis-

Researchers at Michigan State University were the first to identify the powerful antioxidants in Montmorency tart cherries. One or more of these may help

relieve the pain of arthritis and gout. In addition there is growing research that Montmorency tart cherries may help to prevent cancer, especially colon cancer.

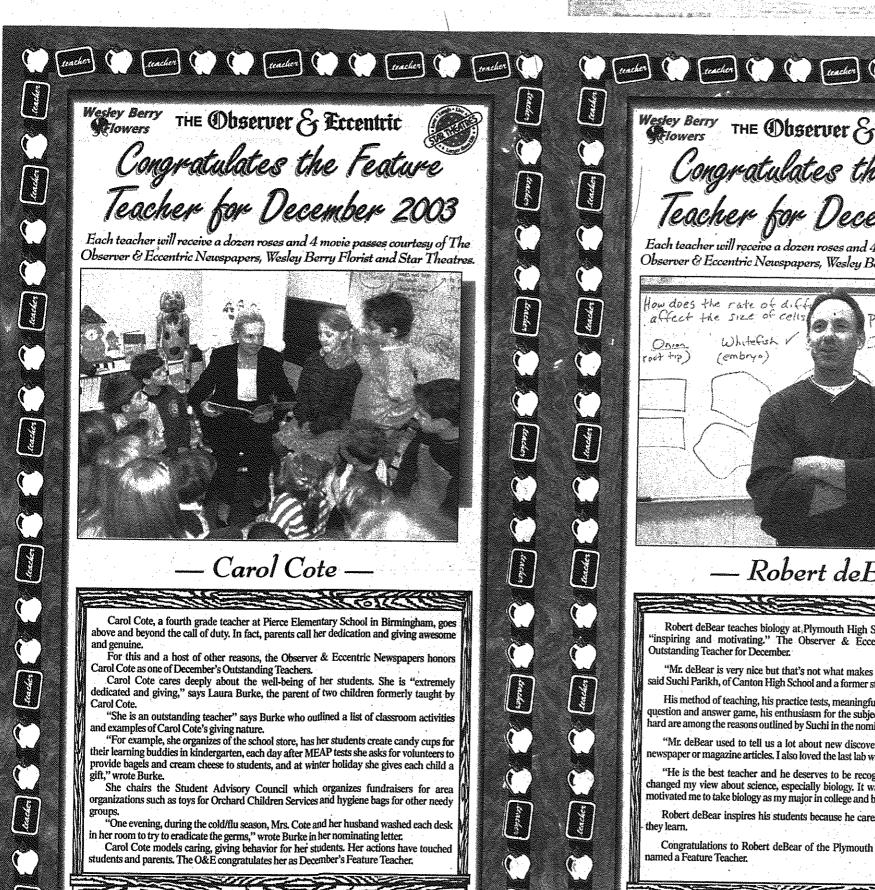
"Twenty cherries provide 25 milligrams of anthocyanins. which help to shut down the enzymes that cause tissue inflammation in the first place," says Dr. Muraleedharan Nair, the lead researcher on the cherry projects at MSU.

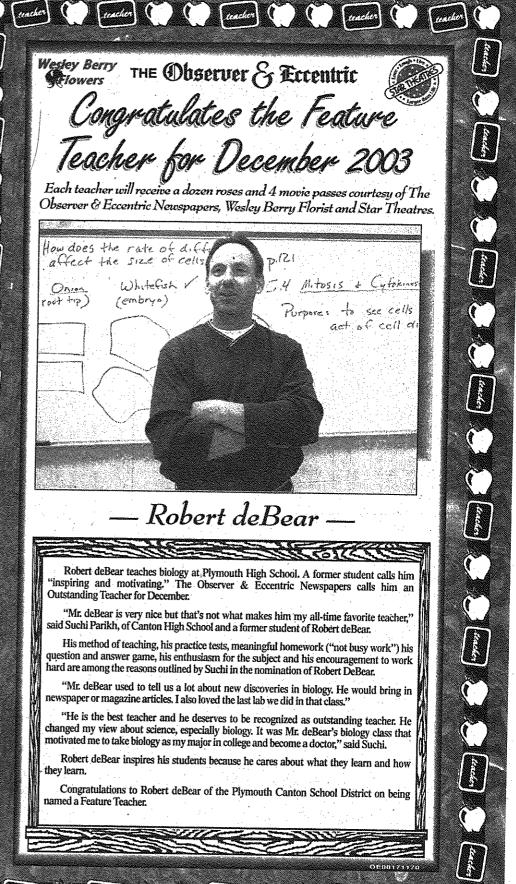
Ongoing research at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, under the direction of Dr. Russel Reiter, shows that the amount of melatonin in Montmorency tart cherries is significant. Although mela-

teacher (teacher teacher teacher

tonin is found in the body in extremely small quantities, slight increases in melatonin levels can produce positive results. "As we age, the human body's ability to produce melatonin decreases," says Dr. Reiter, "So it may be beneficial to find a way to increase melatonin levels to improve the body's circadian rhythm and natural sleep patterns."

More information on the health benefits of tart cherries is available at www.usacherries.com or by sending your name and address on a postcard to: Cherry Marketing Institute, P.O. Box 30285, Dept. MK, Lansing, MI 48909-7785.





Create Lebanese vegetable stew with chickpeas

BY J.M. HIRSCH ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CONCORD, N.H. – Everyone needs a favorite-butnearly-impossible-to-find food

Maybe it's that deep, rich chocolate you enjoyed on vacation in Austria, or a painfully potent mustard from New Mexico, or even a humble apple pie from a ramshackle diner in Alabama.

Whatever the item, all that matters is that it made your eyes roll back, and set you on a search for more.

Of course, in this online age it is easy to find anything and have it shipped anywhere. But the joy in these favorites is not in looking, but rather finding by happenstance.

Unbeknownst to me, I discovered my something special while soaring over the Atlantic earlier this year. En route to London I read an article about Lebanon which described the country as an up-and-coming wine region, rather like a young New Zealand.

The wines sounded just as I like them – full-bodied, bold and fruity. And in the tradition of so much food writing, they also sounded unobtainable, the sort of perfection lovely in pictures and words, but too good ever to grace my table.

New Hampshire isn't exactly known as a hub of wine merchants, so I dog-eared the article and promptly forgot about it. At least, until a few days later when I sat down to dinner at a restaurant in Edinburgh and took a look at the wine list.

Lebanese wines in Scotland?
Surely a joke – but perhaps
fate. My wife and I split a bottle, and the article had not
deceived me. The wine was luscious, and of course, a bit
depressing. Returning to New
Hampshire probably meant
there would be no more of this.
Sure enough, private and

Sure enough, private and state wine-store workers alike shrugged their shoulders when I asked for Lebanese wines (and more times than I care to admit I have had to explain that I want wine from Lebanon the country, not the New Hampshire city by the same name).

So my search went dormant, at least until I stumbled upon the Portland (Maine) Public Market, an indoor farmers' market where artisanal cheeses, warm breads, fresh produce and luscious pastries compete for attention.

Tucked in one corner of the

Tucked in one corner of the market was a great little wine shop. With a few minutes to kill, I poked through and mindlessly asked the cheerful owner the question to which I already knew the answer. If New Hampshire didn't have my wine, surely Maine couldn't.

Sometimes it is so nice to be wrong.

They pr't made it had to

I haven't made it back to Portland since then, and I haven't again found Lebanese wine. Therein is the pleasure, knowing that someday I will happen upon another bottle, and I will get that Edinburgh-Portland feeling all over again. Meanwhile, I have searched for just the right dish to accompany these great wines. I recently turned to Faye Levy's inspiring *Feast from the Mideast* (Harper Collins, 2003, \$29.95).

Though the book isn't completely vegetarian, many of its 250 tempting recipes are, including a fava and fennel salad; black-eyed peas with braised eggplant, rosemary and chili-garlic paste; and red rice with yellow vegetables and raisins.

"Produce is prominent in Mideastern menus, from an array of herb and vegetable appetizers to hearty soups of greens and beans to fresh fruit for dessert," Levy writes. "A colorful salad of fresh diced vegetables with a very light dressing is a menu standard enjoyed at everyday meals as well as festive celebrations."

To accompany the bold flavors of Lebanese wines, I wanted a dish that could hold its own without overpowering. Levy's Lebanese vegetable stew with chickpeas was the perfect cool weather complement.

LEBANESE VEGETABLE STEW WITH CHICKPEAS

1 eggplant (about 1 pound) 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive

1 large onion, chopped Salt and freshly ground black

pepper 2 medium zucchini, about 12 ounces, cut into /cinch dice (see note)

1 cup tomato sauce 2 to 4 garlic cloves, chopped

(optional)
//2 teaspoon ground allspice
(optional)

½ cup water 15-ounce can chickpeas, drained ½ cup chopped fresh Italian parsley

If the eggplant skin is not tough, you don't need to peel it. Cut the eggplant into a i-inch dice.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over a medium flame. Add the onion and saute 7 minutes, or until the onion starts to turn golden brown. If the onion dries out, add 1 tablespoon water and cover until onions are done.

Add eggplant, salt and pepper. Reduce heat to low, cover and cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add zucchini, cover and cook an additional 3 minutes.

Add the tomato sauce, garlic, allspice, water and chickpeas. Cover and cook over a low flame 25 minutes, or until eggplant is tender.

Add half the parsley and simmer 30 seconds. Taste and adjust seasonings. Stir in remaining parsley and, if desired, additional olive oil. Serve hot, room temperature or cold.

Makes 4 to 6 appetizer portions, or 2 to 3 main courses.

Note: If available, Levy recommends using a pale-green zucchini variety.

Recipe from Faye Levy's Feast from the Mideast, Harper Collins, 2003, \$29.95.

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New Moosewood book features vegetarian fare

BY J.M. HIRSCH ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

When it comes to entertaining, relax, enjoy your friends and family, and have fun.

That's the message in the latest cookbook written by The Moosewood Collective, the people behind the virtually iconic vegetarian Moosewood Restaurant in Ithaca, N.Y.

Moosewood Restaurant Celebrates (Clarkson Potter, 2003, \$25.95), the collective's 10th cookbook, is a collection of more than 200 recipes divided into 40 menus that honor a variety of common and not-so-common holidays.

Among the suggestions for Christmas, for example, are stuffed sweet potatoes, roasted chestnuts and chocolate cranberry tart.

STUFFED SWEET POTATOES

4 large sweet potatoes 1½ tablespoons butter or vegetable oil

% cup finely chopped onions 4 teaspoons minced crystalized ginger (also called candied ginger)

2 tablespoons unsulphured golden raisins

2 tablespoons chopped prunes ½ teaspoon salt Freshly ground black pepper, to Preheat oven to 450° F.

Rinse the sweet potatoes to remove any dirt, then dry them and place them whole on a dry baking sheet. Bake 45 to 60 minutes, or until soft to the touch. Remove and let cool until they can be easily handled, about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, melt the butter or heat the oil in a heavy skillet and saute the onions over a medium flame for 8 to 10 minutes, or until translucent. Set aside.

Cut each sweet potato in half lengthwise and carefully scoop out the soft interior from each half, leaving a lining of/s- to/z-inch inside the skin.

In a medium bowl stir together the scooped out sweet potato flesh, sauteed onions, ginger, raisins, prunes, salt and pepper. Mix well. Mound the filling into the sweet potato shells and place in a dry baking sheet. Return to the oven for about 5 minutes, or until thoroughly hot.

Makes 8 servings.

Recipe from The Moosewood
Collective's Moosewood Restaurant
Celebrates, Clarkson Potter, 2003,
\$25.95.

SWEET POTATO-STUFFED EGGPLANT

Stuffed eggplant: 2 purple eggplants (6 to 7 inches long)

1 to 2 tablespoons soy sauce 3 tablespoons vegetable oil

to 450° F. % cup water
et potatoes to 2 cups peeled and diced sweet

potato 2 cups chopped onion

Pinch salt
2 garlic cloves, minced or pressed
1 large red bell pepper, seeded

and diced Chopped scallions, for garnish

Spicy peanut sauce: 2 tablespoons vegetable oil 1½ cups chopped onion

2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (or more to taste) 1/4 cup natural, unsalted peanut

butter
2 tablespoons soy sauce
3 tablespoons light upgulabused

2 tablespoons light unsulphured molasses
2 tablespoons white or cider

vinegar 2 cups tomato juice Salt, to taste

Preheat oven to 350º F. Lightly oil a 9-by-13-inch baking pan.

Cut the eggplants in half lengthwise, brush the cut sides with soy sauce and arrange them flesh side up in the baking pan. Brush lightly with a bit of the oil. Add/2 cup water to the pan and cover with foil. Bake until tender, about 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, place the sweet potatoes in a saucepan with water to cover. Bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer until just tender, about 10 minutes.

In a skillet, heat the remaining oil and saute the onions with the salt and garlic for 5 minutes, or until the onions are soft. Add the bell pepper and cook until just tender, about 5 minutes.

tender, about 5 minutes.

Drain the cooked sweet potatoes. Add them to the skillet and season with salt and pepper, to

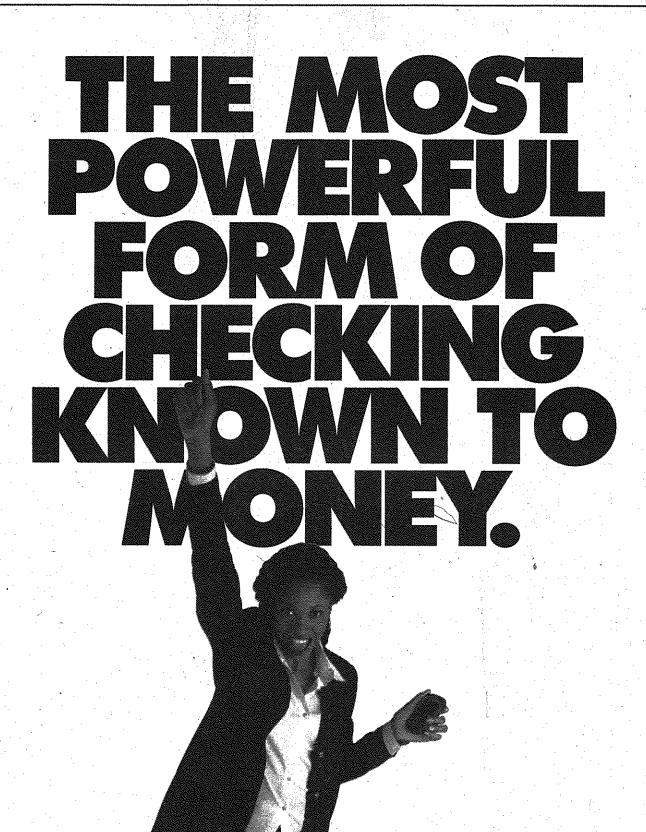
taste. Stir, cover and set aside.

To make the spicy peanut sauce, heat the oil in a saucepan and saute the onions for 3 minutes over a medium-high flame. Add the ginger and cayenne and saute for another minute.

Add the peanut butter, soy sauce, molasses, vinegar and tomato juice. Stir thoroughly to blend the peanut butter then cover and cook gently over a medium-low flame until melted, smooth and hot. Stir frequently to prevent sticking. Season with salt and additional cayenne, to taste, then set aside.

When the eggplants are baked, remove from the oven. With the back of a spoon, gently push the flesh to the sides of each half. Mound the sweet potato mixture into the eggplant shells. Return them to the oven and bake 10 minutes. Top the stuffed eggplants generously with peanut sauce and chopped scallions. Serve hot.

Recipe from The Moosewood Collective's Moosewood Restaurant Celebrates, Clarkson Potter, 2003, \$25.95.





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COVER STORY Elmore Leonard talks about writing, life and why he doesn't own a computer. Page 8

Table Hopping

See who made our 'Top 10' list of best restaurants in metro Detroit this year. Page 10

Hot Ticket

Join the DSO at 'Home for the Holidays' — Santa's visiting, there's a sing-along too. Page 3

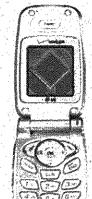
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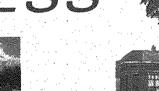
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M SMALL SCREEN.....E5 Federico Fellini's 'La Strada' has won over 50 international awards, including the very first Academy Award for a foreign film.

COVER STORY..... Spend some time with Elmore Leonard, one of the most successful writers in America, and a Bloomfield Township resident.

M TABLE HOPPING......E1 0 Check out our ten hot spots for top eats. If you haven't visited these restaurants yet, you'll want to add them to your 'must do' list.

If you're looking to buy a superior cognac or wish to purchase a gift for a cognac aficionado, consider Delamain.

It's December, the perfect time for a family outing. So what's there to do? Plenty, and more than a few kid-friendly options, too.

Feeling a little strange? Check out the annual Sick and Twisted Animation Festival at The Magic Bag in Ferndale.

The Def Poetry Jam speaks to all facets of the human experience, from dating to doughnuts.

Check out our entertainment calendar to make plans to "Get Out!" and do something fun. STAR STRUCK......E19

Find out what's in the stars for you this week. Read your horoscope.

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Hot Ticket

Cozier than ever DSO's 'Home for the Holidays' is local tradition

he Detroit Symphony Orchestra's annual Home for the Holidays pops concert series couldn't be more at home.

"It's been at least a decade" for the Detroit tradition, said Kendra Whitlock, DSO director of pops and specials. But 2003 is the first year for the program in a physically new home, the recently opened Max M. Fisher Music Center.

All the melodious merrymaking, of course, takes place inside a bedecked Orchestra Hall, which has been incorporated into the music center.

It's just that the expansion and renovation now enables families and concert-goers to mingle and sip on a something festive before and after the seasonal show, making Home for the Holidays cozier than ever.

There's even a dazzling Christmas tree in the orchestra's soaring atrium lobby.

PROGRAM

Slated for Thursday, Dec. 18 to Sunday, Dec. 21 with matinee and evening shows available, Home for the Holidays features a musical program of seasonal favorites, from *Sleigh Ride* to selections from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker to Silent Night. The orchestra also performs renditions of a traditional Kwanza piece and the Hanukkah Festival Overture.

Joining the orchestra are two local choir ensembles, the 70member Madrigal Chorale of Southfield and the 130-member Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield Chancel Choir. Both groups have toured outside the country and been existence for more than 80 years.

Home for the Holidays has two highlights: An audience sing-along and a surprise appearance by the big man in the red suit, Santa Claus himself.

"He basically hangs out with the conductor, hands out candy canes, talks to the kids, and conducts the sing-along," said Whitlock. "It's a great program for families. It's very accessible, and it really features the orchestra.'



The Detroit Symphony Orchestra's 'Home for the Holidays' concert series features classic Christmas carols, seasonal decorations and a finale sing-along.

COZY NEW HOME

What: Detroit Symphony Orchestra's 'Home For the Holidays,' annual holiday pops concert series.

When: 8 p.m. today; 8:30 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday; 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday.

Where: Orchestra Hall, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets: \$15-54, call (313) 576-5111, for information, visit www.detroitsymphony.com.

Big screen

'Something's Gotta Give' mature, flirty fun

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

So this is what would have happened to

She would have turned into a divorced mother in her 50s with a celebrated career as a New York playwright, with a trace of the girlish skittishness that was her trademark in the '70s.

As Erica Barry in Something's Gotta Give, Diane Keaton recalls her most famous film role, but with an added warmth and wisdom that come with maturity.

She's positively radiant opposite Jack Nicholson, playing off his real-life reputation. He's Harry Sanborn, a playboy

record mogul who's infamous for only dating women under 30. His latest conquest is Erica's daughter, Marin (Amanda Peet).

Writer-director Nancy Meyers (Private Benjamin, What Women Want) gives them snappy, witty things to say to each other, and the banter often seems to spring so organically, it's as if you're eavesdropping on two people who aren't even aware they're flirting with each

Even Keanu Reeves has an unexpected, laid-back sex appeal as a thirtysomething doctor who also flirts with Erica - or maybe it's just that he finally exited the Matrix and allowed himself to smile for

NEEDLESS OBSTACLES

But then Meyers destroys all that good will by dragging the film out through needless obstacles and endless false endings, until it culminates with a spectacularly feel-good finale that's cheesy even by Hollywood romantic-comedy standards.

As per the formula, Erica and Harry meet in an unusually cute way: Marin has brought him to her mother's Hamptons beach house for the weekend, unaware that her mom and Aunt Zoe (an egregiously underused Frances McDormand) are there, too.

While Harry and Marin are giggling and rolling around in bed to the smooth sounds of Marvin Gaye - which horrifies Erica and Zoe - Harry has a Viagrainduced heart attack. The doctor who treats him (Reeves) insists that he stick around for a few days; thus he's stuck at

Erica's beach house, where she's also stuck with writer's block.

You could figure out simply by walking past the poster for this movie at a bus stop that Harry and Erica would eventually end up rolling around in bed, too. Harry must realize that what he's needed all along is a mature woman who's his equal - until that happens, he's practically depicted as pond scum.

Once they do get together, Keaton is nothing short of luminescent, capable of allowing myriad expressions to flash across her face - sometimes, seemingly all at once. It is, however, sort of archaic for Meyers to suggest that this bright, beautiful character is only capable of feeling like a natural woman when a man makes her feel that way.

And that man is pretty much a buffoon, despite his womanizing ways.

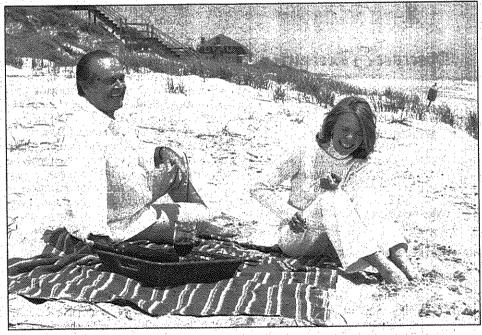
Nicholson isn't afraid to look stupid to get the big laugh, even if it entails baring his backside in a hospital gown.

Unfortunately, he ends up in the hospital too many times toward the end.

Meyers conjures up repeated heart problems for Harry to keep him and Erica apart before their inevitable reconcilia-

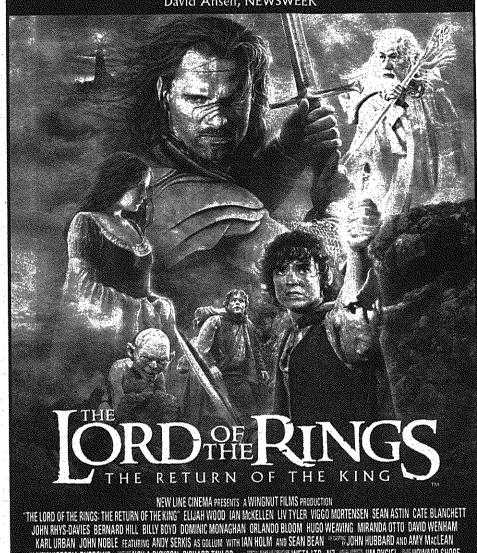
And yes, that's all part of the formula, too. But it's already a talky film, and once it starts pushing the two-hour mark - to quote the title - something's gotta ... oh, never mind.

Something's Gotta Give, a Columbia Pictures release, is rated PG-13 for sexual content, brief nudity and strong language. Running time: 123 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.



Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton fall in love in 'Something's Gotta Give.'

"A TRIUMPH OF EPIC STORYTELLING."
David Ansen, NEWSWEEK



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STAR TAYLOR

Small screen

Do something foreign, rent a Fellini film

BY DAVID MACGREGOR
CORRESPONDENT

Once in a while it's a good idea to remind yourself that there does exist a film world that's relatively devoid of car chases, special effects and jokes about bodily functions.

One of the best places to find films like these is in the "foreign titles" row of your local video store. That's right, the row with the cobwebs and the smoldering corpses. But if a few doses of fortified egg nog have put you in a reckless frame of mind and you're saying to yourself, "Damn the latest Julia Roberts/Tom Cruise star vehicle, I feel like reading subtitles," then you just might find yourself in for a cinematic treat.

So you browse, past the enigmatic works of Bergman and the samurai-fueled adventures of Kurosawa, and you find yourself picking up a copy of Federico Fellini's *La Strada* (The Road).

Good choice. Not only is Fellini one of the big guns of international cinema, he once said that *La Strada* is "my most representative film." A perennial favorite of critics and film buffs, it has won over 50 international awards, including the very first Academy Award for a foreign film in 1956.

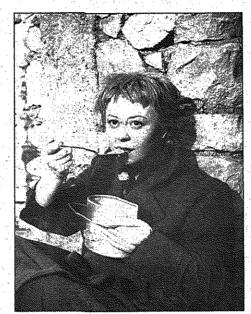
In a nutshell, it's a Beauty and the Beast type of fable, with Anthony Quinn playing the role of Zampano, a travelling strongman, and Giulietta Masina (Fellini's wife) playing Gelsomina, his assistant

Zampano is the bad boy to end all bad boys. His life revolves around little more than eating, drinking and fornicating. Countless symbols associated with him and references in the dialogue confirm that he is little more than an animal. Gelsomina, by contrast, is purity and innocence personified.

While she may seem a bit simple, she also seems to be in touch with worlds beyond this one.

Zampano and Gelsomina travel the back roads of post-World War II Italy, putting on their little show in the street, gathering what contributions they can from the spectators, then moving on to the next town.

When they join up with a travelling circus, Zampano meets his nemesis, a tightrope walker simply known as The Fool, and soon enough events take a dark turn for all of the principal characters.



Giulietta Masina as Gelsomina in a scene from 'La Strada.'

SELF-DISCOVERY

As in many Fellini films, these are characters involved in a search for self-discovery and a more meaningful existence. Some characters pursue those goals and others have to be dragged toward them, but the idea of redemption is at the heart of Fellini's work. La Strada also includes the kind of images that Fellini will forever be associated with: circuses, parades, the road, the sea and empty city squares. As Fellini himself said at one point late in his career, "I always direct the same film."

La Strada is a poetic point of departure from the more hard-line Neo-realist films that came out of the post-World War II environment in Italy.

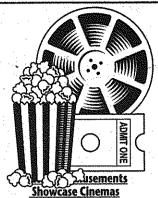
Not content to merely depict life as it is, Fellini often shows the viewer life as it ought to be. In truth, the Zampanos of the world usually go from cradle to grave without even a glimmer of recognition that there can be more to life than the pursuit of our most basic, animalistic desires. In the end, in a physical sense, Zampano winds up pretty much where he started. It's left to the viewer to decide whether or not his journey with Gelsomina has taken him to a different place within himself.

David MacGregor is a film instructor at Wayne State University and screenwriter who lives in Livonia.



Federico Fellini at work. His film 'La Strada' (The Road) won the very first Academy Award for a foreign film in 1956





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Fri-Tues 1105, 120, 410, 650, 905

WED 1105, 120, 410, 650, 905

BRUCE ALMEGHTY (PC13)

FRI-TUES 1120, 200, 430, 655, 935

WED 1

120, 200, 430, 655, 935

THURS 430, 655, 935

THURS 430, 655, 935

THURS 1150, 225, 505, 730, 1010

WED 1150, 225, 505, 730, 1010

HIGHTENG TENSTATIONS (PC13)

FRI-TUES 1110, 155, 455, 735, 1025

WED 1110, 155, 455, 735, 1025

THURS 455, 735, 1025

FREAKY FRIDAY (PC)

FRI-TUES 1115, 140, 425, 710, 940

WED 1115, 149, 425, 710, 940

GOOD BOY! (PC)

HURS 425, 710, 940
GOOD BOY! (PG)
1125, 150, 440, 715, THURS 440, 715
HOUSE OF THE DEAD (R)
FRI-TUES 1100, 430, 1000
WED. 1100, 430; THURS 430, 1000
INTOLERABLE CRUELTY (PG13) FRI-TUES 1100, 135, 420, 705, 945 WED 1100, 135 420, 705 THURS 420, 705, 945 JEEPERS CREEPERS 2 (R)

930 ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO (R) FRI-TUES 1150, 235, 500,750, 1030 WED 1150, 235 500, 750; THURS 500, 750, 1030

OUT OF TIME (PG13) FRI-TUES 1105, 145, 435, 725, 1015 WED 1105, 145, 535, 725; THURS 435, 725, 1015 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (PG13)

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (PG13)
FRI-TUES 1130, 320, 645, 950
WED. 1130, 320, 645, 1HURS 320, 645, 950
RADIO (PG)
FRI-TUES 1135, 205, 450, 740, 1020
WED 1135, 205, 450, 740; THURS 450, 740, 120
SCHOOL OF ROCK (PG13)
FRI-TUES 1140, 240, 515, 755, 1035
WED 1140, 240, 515, 755; THURS 515, 755, 1035
SPYKEDS 3B: GAME OVER (PG)

1035
SPYNIDS 3D: GAME OVER (PG)
FRI-TUES 1100, 130, 415, 700, 920
WED 1100, 130, 415, 700, 415, 700, 920
TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (R)
FRI-TUES 1130, 220, 445, 720, 955
WED 130, 220, 445, 720; THURS 445, 720, 955
TUPAC RESURRECTION (R)
FRI-TUES 1145, 230, 510, 745, 1030
WED 1145, 230, 510, 745
HURS 510, 745, 1030

HURS 510, 745, 1030

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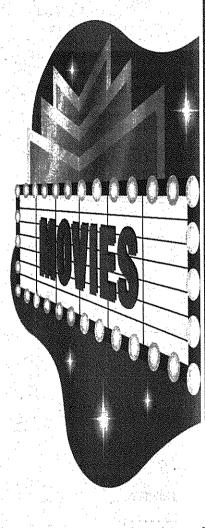
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More movies

Stars don't generate enough sparks in 'Love Don't Cost a Thing'

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Love Don't Cost a Thing shares its title with the name of a Jennifer Lopez song which, thankfully, is not part of the soundtrack. In fact, Lopez is nowhere to be found here, but her ex-boyfriend, Sean Combs, is, in various manifestations.

The high school kids in the movie either wear or covet his clothing line, Sean John. And when nerdy Alvin (Nick Cannon) undergoes a makeover and becomes popular - thanks to cheerleader Paris (Christina Milian), whom he's paid to be his girlfriend for two weeks - the fact that he's wearing a Sean John sweatshirt gives him added

Love Don't Cost a Thing is a remake of the 1987 teen comedy Can't Buy Me Love, which starred a then-unknown Patrick Dempsey as the nerd and Amanda

NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED.

Peterson as the most popular girl in school. Now really, of all the teen comedies

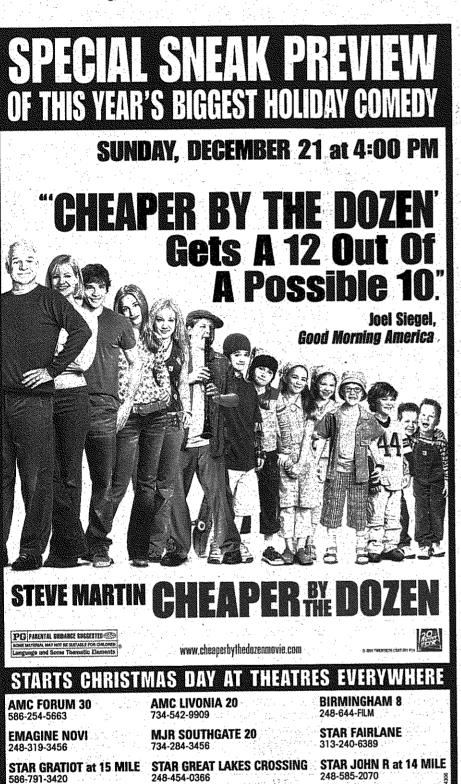
released during the 1980s, was Can't Buy Me Love begging to be remade? It's not like we're talking about Sixteen Candles or The Breakfast Club or even Better Off Dead.

But director Troy Beyer remains faithful to the original film with help from Can't Buy Me Love writer Michael Swerdlick, with whom she co-wrote the script. They haven't breathed much new life into the

movie; the cast is now predominantly black instead of white, and the setting has moved to urban Los Angeles from suburban Arizona.

Cannon and Milian are good-looking and likable, but the tired material doesn't give them much chance to create sparks.

Love Don't Cost a Thing, a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 for sexual content and sexual humor. One and a half stars out of four.



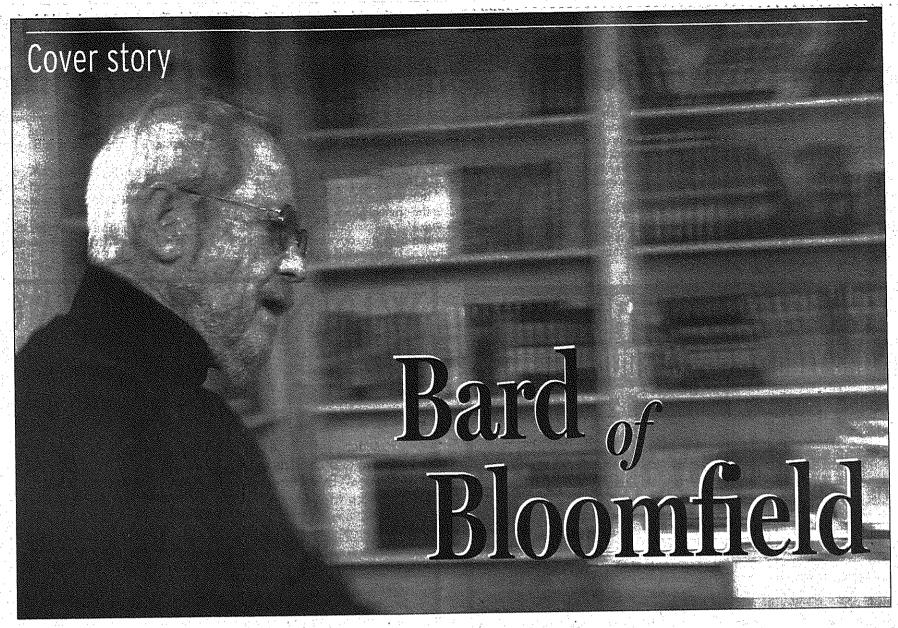
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STAR SOUTHFIELD



Elmore Leonard at home in metro Detroit — with or without rock star visits

BY GREG KOWALSKI STAFF WRITER

"Have you seen my Web site?" Elmore Leonard asks.

"I haven't seen it, but my researcher... in Los Angeles is the master of it. He keeps it up to date," he adds.

Leonard, one of the most successful writers in America, doesn't have a computer.

He writes all his novels and stories in longhand on specially ordered yellow unlined notepads and types the results on an electronic typewriter in the same room where he takes calls from the likes of Quentin Tarantino and entertains members of the rock group Aerosmith.

At his house in Bloomfield Township.
For Leonard, the center of his universe of quirky characters centers on a curving street not far from Quarton Road in the township.

"I don't want to live in New York or L.A.," he explains. "They are inconvenient."

Here he can be surrounded by most members of his family, including his wife, Christine, four of his five kids, 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild. They all live within a few miles of the Leonard home, a stately Georgian building accented with Art Deco details on a shady (at least in summer) street in Bloomfield Village.

Leonard first moved to Birmingham in 1961 and has been living in Bloomfield Village, a one-square-mile enclave in Bloomfield Township, since 1988. But he has been a successful author for more than 50 years. Originally from parts West, including Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans, Leonard learned he loved to write at the University of Detroit, from which he graduated in 1946. For a time he wrote advertising copy for Campbell-Ewald, then stretched his writing skills into fiction, first with Western novels, and when those fell out of fashion in the late 1950s, with crime.

Along the way have come about 40 novels including *Get Shorty*, *Glitz*, *Rum Punch*, *City Primeval* and his personal favorite, *Freaky Deaky*.

And nearly half of those have been converted into films or been optioned to movie studios.

Leonard, however, gave up writing screenplays 10 years ago.

"Because it's no fun," he says. "It's just work. It's got to be fun or it's not worth doing. All your enthusiasm goes into the book. When you're adapting it, there are new scenes, but for the most part just trying to fit the story into a particular format and they're always looking for something new."

He points to *Glitz*, his 1985 hit that was sold to Lorimar production company. He adapted the script, which prompted the response from the company, "All you did was adapt the book."

"I thought, 'Oh, God.' They just assumed that if they're going to pay you to write it, there's got to be a little bit more there."

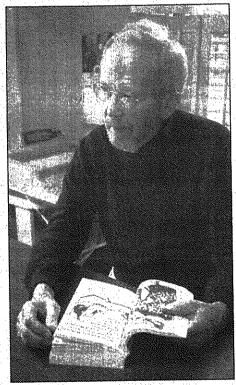
That exchange took place in Hollywood. Back in the serene surrounding of his large home, Hollywood seems like something out of the movies, with no connection to the chilly streets of Bloomfield Township in December.

"We're comfortable here," Leonard says, "We like living here. We can go anywhere we want, but ... I'm certainly too old to move now (he's 78) and learn new streets."

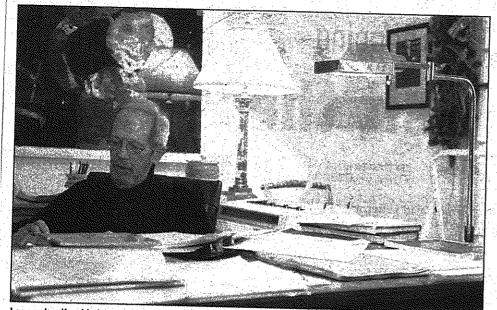
Wife Christine is familiar with the streets of Birmingham as well; she grew up in Royal Oak and attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart.

"All my family is here," she says. She has five brothers and a sister. A nice house in a

PLEASE SEE LEONARD, E9



Leonard's house contains a library of his own works, which doubles as an office.



Leonard writes his books in longhand on specially prepared, unlined yellow tablets.

LEONARD

FROM PAGE E8

great neighborhood, surrounded by family.

"What else is there?" she says.
The Leonards can be seen in
Birmingham, and often are recognized,
but Birmingham plays host to many
celebrities. What's the attraction of
Birmingham?

"Well," says Leonard, "you know what Birmingham is ..."

And in that nebulous sentence encapsulates the whole town — from the coffeshops to the upscale developments.

WORK AT HOME

Seated in his office, across the length of his house from the living room, where he does the serious writing, Leonard says, "I try to get to my desk by 10 o'clock and then I work straight through when I have a book under way until 6. So I put in eight hours. I'll aim for five pages, which is five times 250 (words). But more than likely I'll do four pages or three and a half or something like that. But I always deliver on time or before it's due because I stay with it."

Leonard's next book is due in August and he's just beginning it.

Working in the living room does have its drawbacks. There's the phone calls from those Hollywood-types who keep wanting to turn his films into movies.

"There are a lot of distractions, but you'd have that anywhere and usually it's the phone. But I answer the phone. I'd rather answer the phone than have a list of messages to call back on."

Within his home, Leonard operates in two different worlds. When he sits down at the desk and start writing, he leaves the Birmingham area and heads to other parts.

It might be Florida, where he sets some stories. It's also where he has another home, although he spends most of his time here. Or it might be to Oklahoma, in the 1930s, where he is setting his new novel.

At the notepad, the scene unfolds to him. He doesn't use an outline anymore or plot the story.

"It's just better to sit down in the morning and not know how the scene will develop." he says.

At the end of the writing day, he slides back into the world of non-fiction, which isn't always easy.

"It's difficult to just turn it off. I'll take my shower in the evening before dinner and in the shower I'll think of ideas, It's intense but it is entertaining."

And that's most important, he notes. "People say, 'You've got the best job in the world."

Leonard agrees.

And the Web site, by the way, is www.elmoreleonard.com.

Dutch treats

He is well-known as "Dutch," a name he coined in high school to avoid the wrath that "Elmore" brought upon him from other students. The other "Dutch" Leonard was a Washington Senators baseball player at the time.

First book was the western The

Bounty Hunters, in 1953.

Up next: Mr. Paradise, in January.

■ He hated Maximum Bob.
■ He orders 60 pads of writing

paper at a time.

A pen manufacturer sent him a variety of styles to try to determine what kind would best suit those who write books in long-hand.

The guys from Aerosmith played tennis out back when they visited.

■ People pay to be included in Leonard's books – but for a good cause. He auctions the opportunity to raise money for charity. The record: \$17,000.



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003* (**) E9

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WORTH & TRIP

Table hopping

BY ELEANOR HEALD

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An Westernam The Session

ed potatoes with lives an ak Zingermar Nex Young serves up

MASON-GIRARDOT ALAN MARON

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ERMAN'S ROADHOUSE in Anna Achair agaid

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(**) • Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003

Table hopping

Visit these 10 hot spot s for top eats

from eateries featured in 2003. who doesn't like a top 10 list? year, let's look at a metro Detroit Top 10 To cap off restaurant features in Filter this Blame David Letterman! Really though,

to greatness since opening some years ago, still others have become legends, and some are musts on a destination eating out list. Some are newbies, others have emerged

NEWBIES

over \$3.5 million, the one-stop restaurant meaning of "quintessential" Birmingham. two years planning and an investment of Martini, the lower level bar/lounge. After southern France and the Italian Riviera. BAR & GRILL in Birmingham has been a hit Elegant appetizers are featured with dishes specializing in the flavors of Since opening in April, CITY CELLAR WINE ged the

mate neighborhood restaurant, which since modern venues of cosmopolitan cities, Chef mellow mood in this 70-seat casual yet inti-Harbor. In sync classic and offbeat create a temporary American bistro in Keego menu at JEREMY RESTAURANT & BAR, a conshort, snappy, exquisite and tantalizing Jeremy Grandon and his wife Paula offer a Tuned in well to a trend preferred in

opening in late June, has been jamming. The great seafood houses of coastal origins and displayed at the entrance to the fresh seafood are flown in daily from coasta America inspired the design and atmosthe menu. Birmingham. Over 80 menu items utilizing phere of MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET in

Family Dining in Novi to a contemporary dishes. They're even more exciting at Moe's. Tottis, who most recently spent nine years at Charley's Crab preparing exciting seafood opening. Leon got a fine catch in Chef Gary MOE'S ON TEN SEAFOOD GRILL that had a June Owner Moe Leon transformed Leon's , yet casual eatery, called

LEGENDS AND ICONS

attracted a loyal crowd since opening 15 at BEVERLY HILLS GRILL. He and owner Bill Roettele celebrated 13 years in the kitchen the recently remodeled eatery that has Roberts keep the menu fresh and inspired in In September, Executive Chef Patrick

as Michigan's first sushi bar, serving authentic sushi and sashimi, prepared to order by its trained Japanese chefs. With the current the Southfield Town Center opened in 1985 **MUSASHI JAPANESE CUISINE & SUSHI BAR** in

sushi craze, perhaps, what Musashi

Beverly Hills Grill Chef Pat Roettele holds up a sampling of Beverly Hills Grill's Coc table garnished with (from left) Angel Food Cake, Spice Rubbed Pork, Jumbo Lumy Chocolate Mousse, and Asian spiced Duck Breast. conut Rice Pudding at a Crab Cake Benedict,



Singularity places N

lason-Girardot among

OJ's Sushibar in West Bloomfield. Eijen 'OJ' Suzuki prepares traditional sushi at his

U.S. is the Zingerman

is interpretation of

and Makunouchi Bento boxes. beef, Omakase Kaiseki multi-course dinners Musashi also specializes in Washu Gyu prime dishes — may have been lost in the shuffle. better than any place else — authentic Sapanese small-plate appetizers and noodle At PICANO'S in Troy, proprietor Dominic

Picano's formula for a successful restaurant is

specialties highlight the menu. (where as owner he can be on the premises), simple: hard work, owning only one location including homemade pastas, seafood and veal top quality food and superior service. Several elements make OJ'S SUSHIBAR in Reasonably priced Italian traditions

OJ's: Skip the menu and let OJ cook tradieverything else, it's hand-written in English and kanji (Japanese characters). Best bet at food. For sushi, there's a printed menu. For West Bloomfield a different spot for Japanese

WORTH A TRIP

Sandwich Towne and developed in the early

Roadhouse.

:hicken at Zingerman's

Located in Windsor's historic Old

owners, chef, and Fre Mediterranean cuisin in a Victorian-style h features of the home, the epitome of unique 1860s, MASON-GIRARDOT ALAN MANOR, lodged Mason-Girardot, awed by the architectural ouse built in 1892, is nch, Turkish and is soon charmed by the A first-time diner at

the top metro Detroit ZINGERMAN'S ROADHOUSE in Ann Arbor. Good American food from various regions of the Really good American food is actually destination dining

started the nationally Zingerman's Deli in A then and Zingerman ners established a bai In 1982, Ari Weinzweig and Paul Saginaw s Roadhouse, the partcery, mail-order food renowned nn Arbor. Between business, cream-

been to one or more of the 2003 the word "zing." ery, catering operation and a constore to end the Top 10, then you business, giving sulting/training fine eating in ear or to usher in have some mighty If you've not

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Chef Alex Young serves mashed potatoes with f

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Family fun

Kid around with the family this holiday

Rush, rush, rush all year long. It's December, the perfect time for a family outing.

So what's there to do? Plenty, and more than a few kid-friendly options, too. Here are Filter's holiday picks for family entertainment in the coming weeks:

"Sounds of the Season' – presented by the Motor City Brass Band, 3 p.m. Sunday at Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, Dearborn, \$5-\$15, (313) 943-2354, www.mcbb.org.

"Triple Expresso" – a comedy with music, Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday-Sunday through December, evening shows at 7 or 8 p.m., matinees at 2 or 3 p.m., \$32.50-\$37.50, Gem Theatre, Detroit, (313) 963-9800, www.gemtheatre.com.

**A Christmas Carol' – through Sunday; show times vary 2 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., Meadow Brook Ensemble Theatre, campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills, \$27-\$31, (248) 370-3316, www.mbtheatre.com.

ma 'Radio City Christmas Spectacular' – 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. (times vary by date), runs through Saturday, Dec. 27, Fox Theatre, Detroit, \$18.50-\$60.50, (248) 433-1515, www.OlympiaEntertainment.com.





iguts, Games & Glory: Detroit's Sporting Legacy' – through Dec. 30, Detroit Historical Museum in Detroit, museum hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, adults are \$5, students and seniors are \$2.50, children age 4 and under are free, (313) 833-1805,

www.detroithistorical.org.

"Santa vs. the Snowman' at IMAX
Theatre, 11 a.m. 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.
shows, Monday-Sunday through Jan. 4
(closed Dec. 23-25), Detroit Science
Center in Detroit, \$4 plus center admission of \$6-\$7, call (313) 577-8400,
www.detroitsciencecenter.org.

"Twelve Nights of Christmas' – a celebration of Christmas traditions with pond skating, caroling, fireworks and more, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dec. 18-23, Greenfield Village, Dearborn, \$8-\$15, reservations suggested, (313) 982-6001.





The Rockettes in Santa's Workshop, a scene from the Radio City Christmas Spectacular.



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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003 (**) E13

Toby Redd show benefits Alzheimer's research

It was one of those rare nights in Detroit music's rich history.

Detroiter Chad Smith, drummer for the Red Hot Chili Peppers, returned to his old stomping grounds and played with his former rock band Toby Redd on Nov. 30 at Hot Rock's Cafe in Warren.

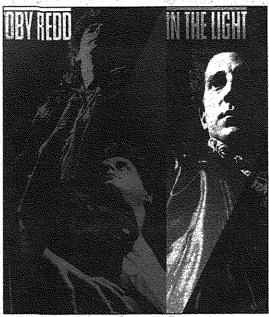
Scores of people were turned away from the sold-out reunion gig at the Warren nightclub on Hoover Road that for the night changed its name back to New York New York – the club's moniker back in the 1980s, when Toby Redd was a regular act.

The Toby Redd reunion came about as a fund-raiser for Alzheimer's research, a charity that's personally close to Smith. Also reuniting for the night was local band Beer on a Penguin.

For hours, the line of people trying to get into Hot Rocks was wrapped around the club and to the street.

The cold night's chill didn't stop people from waiting, some in vain, to get a last-minute tick-

"I used to see them every week in the '80s and I want to get in there and see my old friends," said John Habit, 35, who didn't have a ticket but was hoping more would be released



Toby Redd's CD 'In the Light' and others are available online for a limited time.

at the door.

Redd performed a full set and played hits from their heyday including *Everytime I Run*, which received good airplay from radio stations like WRIF, which sponsored the show, back in the '80s

It was almost as if the band never broke up; the crowd still chanted the songs that were almost 20 years old.

Other local musicians that joined the bands on stage included Jeff Fowlkes, who played with Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise and the defunct local '80s band Second Self. Fowlkes sat in as drummer for the Penguins.

Toby Redd, whose music has been hard to find over the years, released a new CD for the show. It's available, along with older CDs including one of a rare live show at Harpo's, at www.funkyfresh.com

More movies

Sick and Twisted

Animation festival celebrates bizarre and tacky

What would the holidays be without the Magic Bag's annual Sick and Twisted Animation Festival?

The Magic Bag celebrates its 11th year hosting this compilation of bizarre, tacky and tasteless animated shorts from around the world Monday through Sunday,

This year's highlight is Here Comes Dr. Tran, a 3-D short by Beyond Grandpa directors Breehn Burns and James Johnson. This spoof of martial arts movies will require 3-D glasses, provided free with admission. Spike says that fans in other cities have returned a second night just to see this one again.

New shorts this year include: Snowman (Lane Nakamura) – What would happen if an alien race abducted a snowman, thinking it was human?

How to Cope With Death
(Ignacio Ferreras) – Just because

she's old doesn't mean a grandma can't hold her own when death comes knocking.

Cane Toad (Andrew Silke and David Clayton) – Australian tale of a missing toad and the friends who come up with explanations about what happened to him.

Mama I'm A Thug (Jim Lujan) – The tales of a suburban rapper who ends up surrounded by real gangstas is everything "Malibu's Most Wanted" could have been.

Big Abandoned Refrigerator Adventure (Keith Allen, Courtney Branch and Seth Gordon) – Bored little kids Billy and Sally find their own fun in this puppetanimated tale.

Mr. Grenade (Shane Acker) -More fun from the director of Hangnail about the dangers of being a grenade.

Petting in the Park (Bill Plympton) – From veteran animator Plympton, a couple has a close encounter on a park bench.

FILM FESTIVAL

What: Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Animation Festival When: Monday, Dec. 22 to Sunday, Jan. 4. Show times - doors open 8 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 22-23, film 9:30 p.m. Doors open 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sunday and Monday, Dec. 26, 28 and 29, film 8 p.m. Second showing, doors open 10 p.m., film 10:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 1; Sunday, Jan. 4, doors open 8 p.m., film 9:30 p.m.

Where: The Magic Bag, 22918 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. All shows are 18 and over only. Tickets: \$7 at the door, (248) 544-3030 for information

BACKGROUND

The Magic Bag has been hosting the Sick and Twisted Animation Festival since 1992.

These annual holiday screenings have included the Detroit premieres of Mike Judge (Beavis and Butthead in Frog Baseball), South Park creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker (Frosty, The Spirit of

Neck Joe).

Spike and Mike have been the leading presenters of cutting-edge animation and cartoons for over two decades, a pretty big feat when you consider that Mike has been dead for several years.

Christmas) and Powerpuff Girls creator Craig McCracken (No

These cartoons include quirky hand-drawn gems to elaborate computer-generated productions.

Spike and Mike's is the longestrunning festival of its kind, and has played a major role in helping the animation medium become one of today's most popular facets of mass entertainment.

The Twistin' Tarantulas celebrate 10-year anniversary

It's been 10 years since the Twistin' Tarantulas hit the Detroit music scene with its rockabilly punk swing dance music.

What began as a side project for "Pistol Pete" Mitgard and "Gorgeous" George Friend, who were playing with Johnny "Yarddog" Jones and the Sun Messengers, became a full-time recording and touring act 10 years ago.

With three CDs in their catalogue, there's hardly a big city in the United States where they haven't performed.

The Detroit music community was sad-

dened to learn in 2002 that Pistol Pete was diagnosed with bladder cancer.

The good news is after three surgeries and two rounds of aggressive chemotherapy, he's cancer free.

Having so much to celebrate, The Twistin'
T's play The Magic Bag at 8 p.m. Sunday.
Admission is \$7. A behind-the-scenes video
of the band on the road will also be featured.

The Magic Bag is at 22920 Woodward Ave. in Ferndale. Call (248)544-3030 for more information.

Poetry

Def Poetry Jam touches many areas of life

Are doughnuts life?
For a former Michigander they are.
Krispy Kreme donuts are important
enough to prompt a writer named Poetri
to write poems about them.

His sweet addiction is part of the touring Tony Award-winning production of Russell Simmons' *Def Poetry Jam* coming to Detroit's Music Hall from Dec. 30 through Jan. 4.

Def Poetry Jam features eight diverse young poets who speak from the heart

AT A GLANCE

What: Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam, includes the best poets from the **Broadway version** of the jam. Where: Detroit Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30; 6:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31; Friday-Saturday, Jan. 2-3; and 3 p.m. Sunday,

Jan. 4
Tickets: Opening
night \$22.50 for all
seats. Tickets for
other performances \$19-\$50. Call
Ticketmaster
(248) 645-6666.

about topics ranging from dating and politics to everyday life in America.

"It's a mix of comic relief and serious topics," said Poetri, who's from Muskegon. "I chose comedy for the tour, which is why I talk about Krispy Kremes – man, I'm addicted to the glazed."

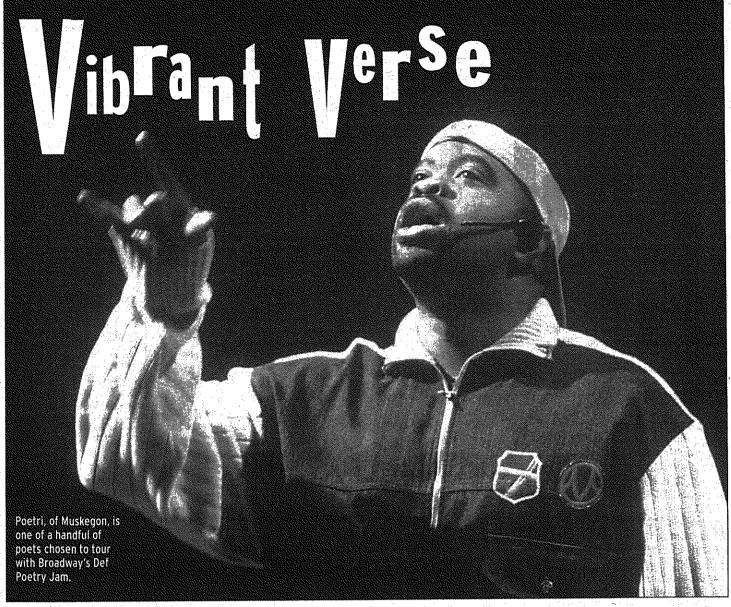
The Def Poetry
Jam made its
debut on HBO,
went to Broadway
and has made
stars out of a
handful of poets
from around the
country.

Poetri, who lives in Los Angeles, hosts one of the largest weekly poetry slams in the U.S., perhaps even the world. Every week, 500-600 people attend the Poetry Lounge event, which is where Simmons discovered him.

IT'S A LIVING

"They came to the lounge looking for poets and asked me to join," Poetri said. "We did HBO, Broadway and now I'm making my living traveling the country and reading poetry."

It's an unexpected surprise for Poetri,



who initially moved to L.A. to rap. Then again, anyone who lives in L.A. or New York knows that entertainment-inspired careers rarely move as planned. Poetri started writing when he was about 10, after his parents sent him to his room without television as a punishment.

"So I just picked up the pen," he said. Def Poetry Jam is inspiring writers nationwide and for the first time in American history, poetry has hit the mainstream. Spoken word artists like



Russell Simmons created Def Poetry Jam, which was a success on Broadway and HBO. It's coming to Detroit.

Poetri are now recognized on the streets.
"I'm still getting used to it, it still surprises me to hear people say, Hey you're

that poet," he said. The only drawback, he said, is that

The only drawback, he said, is that some poets change their style just to try to get on HBO.

"People every day stop me on the street and ask, 'How do I get on HBO, what should I write about?' and my only answer is to just keep writing what you're writing," he said. "Don't change. You can't write for other people, you have to write for yourself first. ... But the great thing is that *Def Poetry Jam* also inspires people to write."

This uplifting event features eight performance poets with a new American voice. The result is an exuberant, insightful and comedic look at who we are and where we are today.

The cast includes Beau Sia, Black Ice, Mayda Del Valle, Georgia Me, Suheir Hammad, Lemon, Poetri (all of whom starred in the Broadway production) and Bassey Ikpi. DJ Jedi provides music.

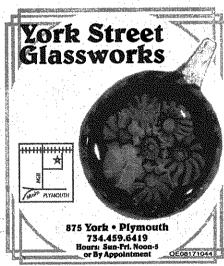
Russell Simmons has brought hip hop to every facet of media and pop culture: in music with the successful music label, Def Jam Recordings, in film with Def Pictures and on television with HBO's hugely popular Def Comedy Jam. He also found Phat

Farm clothing for kids and adults.

The Def Poetry Jam put Poetri's thriving career in high gear. Since HBO, he's written and produced more than 150 commercials for Nike, NFL Films and BET. Poetri has also collaborated with Bootsy Collins, Nona Hendryx, LL Cool J and others.

But right now, he just want to tour with the Jam.

"We read the same poems every night, but each audience is completely different. ... It's always interesting to see what people react to in each city."



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003 • (**) £15

Your Guide to Entertainment

Send fax or e-mail items for consideration in Get Out! To Keely Kaleski, assistant managing editor for features, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (2480 644-1314 or e-mail kkaleski@oe.homecomm.net

PROFESSIONAL THEATER

Detroit Repertory Theatre

Here and There by Esther Blumenfeld 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday; 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday; \$17; through Dec. 28, and New Year's Eve, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit; (313) 868-1347.

www.detroitreptheatre.com

Century Theatre

Forbidden Christmas, 8 p.m. Wednesday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, \$28.50-\$37.50, dinner packages available, (313) 963-9800.

Meadow Brook Theatre

A Christmas Carol, through Sunday, campus of Oakland University, call (248) 377-3300 or Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666.

The Masonic Temple Theatre

The Producers, the new Mel Brooks musical, through Jan. 11, with Bob Amaral in the role of producer Max Bialystock, \$27.50 to \$75, (248) 645-6666, (313) 872-1000, www.nederlanderdetroit.com

Jewish Ensemble Theatre

Nobody's Gilgul by Lois Roisman, continues to Jan. 4, Aaron DeRoy Theatre, 6600 W. Maple, corner of Drake, West Bloomfield, \$20 to \$32, discounts for seniors/students, (248) 788-2900.

The Radio City Christmas Spectacular Through Dec. 27 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets \$18-\$60.50, (313) 471-661

Detroit, Tickets \$18-\$60.50, (313) 471-6611. Fisher Theatre

Les Miserables through Jan. 4. Curtain 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Addition shows 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22 & Dec. 29, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, \$25-\$66.50, (248) 645-6666, (313) 872-1000, www.nederlanderdetroit.com

DINNER THEATER

Genitti's Hole-in-the wall

My Big Fat Michigan Holiday, dinner and

show, every evening, through Wednesday, Dec. 31, \$45; Children's theater, Yap, Yammer and Yelp, interactive lunch theater, Saturday-Sunday to Dec. 28, \$12.95 children, \$14.95 adults, 108 E. Main, Northville, (248) 349-0522, www.genittis.com

Saline Area Players

Nuncrackers: The Nunsense Christmas Musical, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 18-20, 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Phat Daddy's, 131 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. \$25, (734) 944-8848.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS/SHOWS

Farmington Community Chorus

Holiday Seasonings 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Mercy High School Auditorium, corner of 11 Mile Road and Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, \$10, at the door, or call (248) 632-4067.

John Cowley & Sons

The Christmas Gift, several acoustic

performers throughout the evening, benefit for local families in need, Friday, 33338 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 474-5941, www.johncowleys.com

Motor City Brass Band

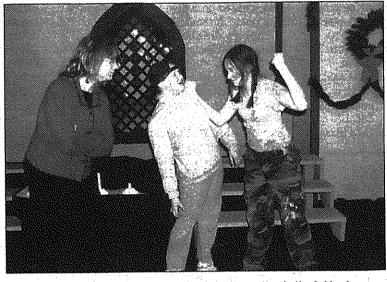
Sounds of the Season 40-member band with Measure for Measure, an 80-voice men's choir, 3 p.m. Sunday, Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors, \$5 children under 12, (313) 943-2354.

BBSO

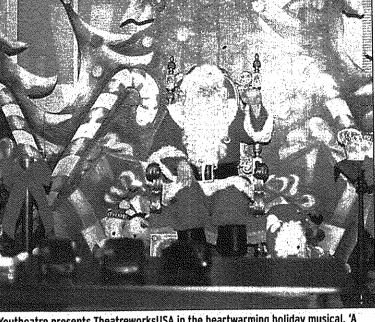
Between the Holidays concert 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, Temple Beth El, Telegraph at 14 Mile Road, \$25 adults, no charge for kids accompanied by adults, (248) 645-2276 in advance, and at the door, www.bbso.org

Renaissance Productions

A Christmas Carol, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Genesis Worship Center for the Arts, Palmer at Wayne Road, Westland, no charge, (734) 724-4107.



Kathryn Sussman (left) of Bloomfield Hills plays the mother in the Oakland Theatre Guild production of 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.' Her daughters Hilary (12) and Rachel (14) play Charlie Bradley and Ollie Herdman. The play, which tells the story of the 'horrible' Herdmans, the meanest kids in town, and how they take over the Christmas pageant one year, is deeply moving and very funny. Performances at the Starlight Theater in Summit Place Mall, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 4 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$13 adults, \$10 seniors, children under 12. Call (248) 335-1788 to order tickets or online at www.starlighttheater.net. The mall is at 315 N. Telegraph on the corner of Elizabeth Lake Road in Waterford.



Youtheatre presents TheatreworksUSA in the heartwarming holiday musical, 'A Christmas Carol,' on Saturday and Sunday. Both shows will feature Snack with Santa. For only \$5, kids can snack with jolly old Saint Nick and his elves between shows to share their last minute wishes. Snack with Santa times are 12:15 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, 3:15 p.m. Sunday. Performances are at the Millennium Centre 15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield. Shows 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. 'A Christmas Carol' tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 day of show. Call (248) 557-PLAY (7529) or visit www.youtheatre.org.

Holly

Downtown, Olde Fashioned Christmas Festival, Saturday-Sunday, (248) 634-1900, www.hollymi.com

Rochester Hills Museum

Old-fashioned Christmas 10:30 a.m. to noon, 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday. Sing carols around a 1860s piano, listen to holiday stories, make an ornament, admission \$5, call (248) 656-4663 to register, 1005 Van Hoosen Road, Rochester Hills, www.rochesterhills.org/museum.htm

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS/SALES

Paint Creek Center for the Arts

Children 6-11 will make hand-painted ornaments and other holiday projects, 10 a.m. to noon Sunday. Winter classes for adults and youth begin Jan. 12. For schedule/information, or to register for holiday workshop, call (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org. The center is at 407 Pine St., downtown Rochester.

Touch of Light

Holiday show/open house 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, over 100 handblown ornaments on display, 23426 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 543-1868. Gallery also open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

All-Media Art Sale

Eastern Michigan University, Ford Gallery, EMU campus, Ypsilanti, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Monday-Tuesday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Variety of media offered for sale (734) 487-0465.

D&M Art Studio

Kid's only fine arts workshops and holiday all day paints workshops for ages 6 and up at D&M Studio, 8691 N. Lilley Road, Canton and The Summit, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Call (734) 453-3710 for

details.

Detroit Institute of Arts

Activities for all ages during the holiday break including puppet performances, storytelling and more, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 29-31. Located at 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-7900 or www.dia.org

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Party 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Variety of music, dancing, party favors, champagne, late night breakfast buffet, The Max, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 576-5111 or www.detroitsymphony.com

Finnish Cultural Center

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, dinner 8 p.m. The Ray Adams Band will play music for all ages, champagne midnight toast, snack. Tickets \$35 per person, call (248) 478-6939 by Dec. 30 for reservations, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

Historic White House Inn

Dinner, horse drawn sleigh rides, Sheila Landis Duo 5 p.m. to midnight. New Year's Eve party begins at 10 p.m. includes champagne and party favors, \$29.95, sleigh rides \$10, One East High Street, Metamora, (810) 678-2150.

Gem & Century Theatres

Dinner at the Century Grille, dancing to the Ed Wells Jazz Band, choice of seeing either Forbidden Christmas or Triple Espresso, dinner show & dancing, \$100 per person, dinner & dancing, \$59.50 per person, show & dancing, \$59.50 per person, (313) 963-9800, www.gemtheatre.com Santia Banquet Center

Doors and bar open 7 p.m., dinner 8 p.m. entertainment and dancing featuring the Bugs Beddow band beginning at 9 p.m., \$75 per person, includes dinner buffet, full bar, champagne toast, pizza snack at midnight, entertainment, 1985 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor, (248) 682-0420. Woodruffs

Five course dinner, entertainment by Vanessa Johnson, seatings 6 p.m. (\$55 per person), 9 p.m. (\$85 per person), 212 W. Sixth St., Royal Oak, (248) 586-1519.

Hotel Holly Four course dinners 4-11 p.m., \$40 per person, 110 Battle Alley, Holly, (248) 634-5208. www.hollvhotel.com

AUDITIONS

Masonic Temple Theatre

Auditions for 12 children to be in the orphan chorus in Annie, running Feb. 10-15 at the Masonic Temple Theatre. Interested girls ages 7-14 who sing and dance well should bring two head shots and resumes with all contact information attached to the Fountain Ballroom of the Masonic Temple Theatre, 500 Temple Ave., Detroit, 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 29. Must be between 3'7" and 4'11" tall. Be prepared to learn a couple of songs from the show to audition. Musical accompaniment provided. Auditions start at 11:30 a m.

Good and Plenty Players

Yearbook Reflections 11 a.m. Saturday, Gerry Kulick Community Center, 1201 Livernois, Ferndale. For ages 10-17, performances March 19-21, Francine Hachem, director, (248) 541-1763.

Sara Smith Productions

Youth Theatre production of Fiddler on the Roof, 5-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9 or 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. Show plays March 6-7. To schedule an audition, call (248) 644-

COLLEGE

Hilberry

David Mamet's Glengarry Glen Ross continues in rotating repertoire to Jan. 31, 4743 Cass, Wayne State University campus, Detroit, \$12 to \$20, (313) 577-2972.

YOUTH

Marquis Theatre

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday through Jan. 18, 135 E. Main St., Northville, \$8, (248) 349-8110.

Anderson Theatre

The Flight Fantastic in collaboration with Henry Ford Museum, presented by September Productions, 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 20-21 and Dec. 27-30. \$8 adults, \$7 children, For reservations, call (313) 982-6001.

Theatre Livonia

Christmas Magic & A Charlie Brown Christmas, Saturday-Sunday, lunch at noon show at 1 p.m. on Saturday, lunch



'New York New York,' an exhibition of works by Arms, Calapai, Coudrain, Klein, Landeck and others, continues through Jan. 31 at Arnold Klein Gallery, 32782 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Gallery open 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; closed Dec. 24 to Jan. 2. For more information, call (248) 647-7709.

at 1 p.m. show 2 p.m. Sunday, lunch & show \$10, show only \$7, Livonia Mall. 29514 Middlebelt at 7 Mile Road, use G entrance. Miracle on 34th Street 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, \$8 adults, \$6 seniors/students. (586) 344-

CHORAL

Plymouth Oratorio Society

Begins rehearsals 7:15 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, First United Methodist Church, North Territorial Road, west of Sheldon, Plymouth. Selected works are Mozart's Solemn Vespers and Beethoven's Mass in C. No auditions needed call Don Pratt, (734) 455-8353 for information,

Farmington Community Chorus

Auditions for spring session, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6 and Jan. 13, William Costick Activities Center, 11 Mile Road east of Middlebelt, Farmingtoin Hills. Call Kathy Hall (248) 471-4516 or visit www.farmingtonchorus.com

DANCE

Western dance

Wolverine Silverpur Dancers 8-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Italian Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial Dr., Warren, Doors open 7 p.m., lesson 7:30 p.m. Couples, Flow & Line Dancing, \$10, (586) 573-0668.

Ballroom Dancing

Moondusters will host ballroom dancing to live bands, featuring popular swing,

fox trot, waltz, cha-cha and other Latin 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday \$6. Dressy attire. Singles and married. Meet at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road and Five Mile, Livonia. Ballroom dance lessons 7-8 p.m. Saturday, call Joe (248) 968-5197.

Scottish Country Dance

Lessons 7 p.m. Thursday, Madison Heights, United Methodist Church, 246 E. 11 Mile Road, \$4, first night free, no partner required, (248) 637-2824.

Sangria/Sky Club

Salsa night with DJ, Wednesday-Thursday, free salsa lessons at 8:30 p.m., 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964, \$5 cover, 21 and over, www.salsaDetroit.com

Heat

Salsa, Merengue, Bachata, DJ. free salsa lessons at 8:30 p.m. Friday, 2 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 756-4821, \$7 cover, 18 and over, www.salsa.Detroit.com

Half Past Three

Latin night with DJ, free salsa lessons 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Grand River Avenue, two blocks east of Motor City Casino, Detroit, \$8 cover, 21 and over, (313) 304-8953, www.salsaDetroit.com

COMEDY

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Chili Challis with Steve Holmes, 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastley.com, Mike Green, Dec. 26-27, New Year's Eve, Ralph Harris, two shows 7:30 p.m. (\$55 couple), 10:30 p.m. (\$70 couple).

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase Kevin McPeek, 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080. Next week, Keith Ruff, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 26-27. Tim Walkoe, 8 p.m. (\$22.50) & 10:30 p.m. (\$29.50, includes champagne toast, party favors)

Second City Detroit Ten. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday (\$15), 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday (\$20); Best of the Second City Touring Company 7 p.m. Sunday. (\$12), 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (313) 965-2222. Dinner show packages available. Call for information.

JAZZ/BLUES/MOTOWN/ROCK

Edison's

Tall Cool One, guitar/bass/drums quartet, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

Firefly Club

Tom Saunders Midwest All Stars, Dixieland concert and recording session 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, music starts at noon, \$20 includes brunch; The George Benson Quartet plays 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. New Year's Eve, \$40 per person, \$75 per couple, includes buffet, champagne toast, Paul Keller birthday celebration 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, \$10 cover, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, (734) 665-

Bird of Paradise

Ryan Dehues with Jeff Cresswell Trio 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, \$15, Bob Mervak 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 26-27, \$10; Tad Weed Freedom Ensemble, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, \$5; 312 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, (734) 662-8310, Silky's Martini & Music Cafe Witchdoctors (blues) 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, K.G.B. (Motown) 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Desire (Motown, Top 40), 21931 Michigan Ave., Detroit, \$5 cover weekends after 8:30 p.m., (313) 565-6278.

Sweet Georgia Brown

Solo pianists 6-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, trios 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 1045 Brush St., Greektown, Detroit, (313) 965-1245. Highlights, Shelia Landis, Friday; Robert Lowe, Saturday; Gary Shunk, Monday, Dec. 22; Larry Nozero, Friday, Dec. 26; Odessa Harris, Saturday, Dec. 27, Gwen & Charles Scales, New Year's Eve. Special menu offering. Call restaurant for details.

John Cowley & Sons

Gypsy Dog (rhythm & blues) 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Attic (classic rock) 10 p.m. Saturday, 33338 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 474-5941, www.johncowleys.com

Woodruff's Supper Club

Bob Mervak 6-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Imperial Rhythm Section 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Shandia Nurullah 9:30 p.m.

to 1 p.m. Saturday, 212 W. Sixth St., Royal Oak. (248) 586-1519. www.woodruffs.com

FOLK/WORLD

The Ark

Finvarra's Wren, 8 p.m. Saturday, \$13.50, annual concert for peace 7:30 p.m. Sunday, \$11, Crossroads Ceili with Liz Carrol, 7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28, \$13.50. Closed Dec. 22-26, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, (734) 761-1880, www.a2ark.org

FILM

Uptown Birmingham 8

Classic Film Series 11:10 a.m., 1:10 p.m., 3:15 p.m., 5:15 p.m., 7:20 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. every Wednesday, 211 S. Old Woodward Ave., Birmingham, \$5.50, (248) 644-FILM.

Film Wrap

With Ray MacDonald the last Friday of each month, 9-11 p.m. at the Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Discussion of the month's film showing at the Detroit Film Theatre. Donation \$5, (313) 831-1250.

MUSEUMS, PARKS AND TOURS

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Full Circle First Contact: Vikings and Skraelings in Newfoundland and Labrador, through Jan. 4, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, \$7 adults, \$5 children (877) 462-7262, www.cranbrook.edu

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

The 16-acre museum complex tells the story of Oakland County's earliest pioneers. Admission includes tours of the 1840 Van Hoosen Farmhouse, 1850 Tenant Red House and 1927 Van Hoosen Dairy Barn. The museum's new permanent exhibit, A Lively Town, uses more than 200 images and 100 artifacts to show the development of the Rochester area. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, at the museum on Van Hoosen Road, one mile east of, Rochester Road off Tienken. (248) 645-4663 or visit

www.rochesterhills.org/museum.htm Ann Arbor Hands On Museum

Celebrating 20 years of discovery, museum offers more than 250 science and technology exhibits to explore the world of science, 220 E. Ann. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, \$7, \$5 children, students and seniors. (734) 995-KIDS or www.laahom.org

Exhibit Museum of Natural History Season of Light examines several ancient and recent winter solstice celebrations including Christmas and Hanukkah, 12:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 28, 1109 Geddes Ave., Ann Arbor, (734) 764-0478, admission \$3.50, www.exhibits.lsa.umich.edu

Pure Picks

Selected from the reams of publicity propaganda, we present our top entertainment picks for the week, "Filtered" just for you.

Local music

This is big.

15 local bands will rock your holiday season Friday during the The 2nd Annual **Detroit Sounds and Spirits** at the Magic Stick, Detroit.

Among those slated to perform are: Brendan Benson, The Paybacks, The Waxwings, The

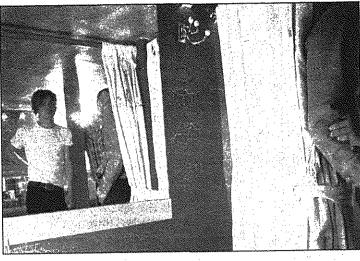
Sights, Pas|Cal, Saturday Looks Good to Me, The Go, Slumber Party, Outrageous Cherry, Blanche, The Come Ons, Thunderbirds are Now!, the Demolition Dollrods and many more.

Proceeds from the showcase will benefit Detroit's Coalition of Temporary Shelter, an organization that provides emergency shelter and transitional housing for those in need, and long-term housing for the elderly and mentally and physically disabled homeless.

Doors will open at 9 p.m. 18 and up. Admission is \$15.

The Magic Stick is located at 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. For more information, call

(313) 833-9700.





Above, Brendan Benson; left, Fred Thomas of Saturday Looks Good to Me will perform at Detroit Sounds and Spirits Friday.

If you've noticed lately, burlesque dancing is back in a big way. If you missed the saucy and comedic performance of Detroit's own **Spag Burlesque** at Dally in the Alley this summer, have no fear. xXx Mess, featuring DJ Spag and Sandy claws, will take place at 9 p.m. Dec. 23 at Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. And if you are looking for a belated holiday gift, the women will be hawking their 2004 Pin-Up Calendar. The show is 18 and over. Admission is \$8 for the boys and \$6 for the girls. For more information, call (313) 831-457 or check out http://www.spagdetroit.com.

Puppe artist Hobey

Ford will bring his unusual rod puppets, called Foamies, to the DIA stage when he presents a holiday performance titled **Animalia**.

The performance features animals from butterflies to undersea life. The show will be presented at 3 p.m. Dec. 26-28 and 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 26 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

Sunday's 3 p.m. performance will be preceded by a lecture

titled "Puppets and the Puppeteer: The Art and Mechanics of Puppetry," at 2 p.m.

Hobey Ford

local entertainment or other ideas to be featured in this space, e-mail stardy@oe.homecomm.net.

Activities are free with museum admission. For more information, call (313) 833-7900 or click on http://www.dia.org/

Club

If Sunday finds you with a major case of the hung-over blues, get yourself back on the road to recovery with "Rehab" every Sunday night at Detroit's best tequila bar.

Local Dis spin the best in house music each and every Sunday night at **Agave** nightclub in Detroit. The place gets packed and really moving at around midnight. Just plan to call in sick to work.

Agave is located at 4265 Woodward Ave., Detroit. For more information, call (313) 833-1120

(313) 833-7900 or click on http://www.ora.org/

Pure Picks is written by Stephanie Tardy. Is there something you want considered? To submit information on







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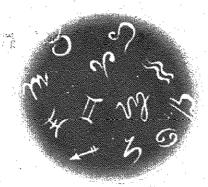
www.homelownlife.com

Horoscope



Star Struck

(Dec. 18-Dec. 20)
By Dennis Fairchild



ARIES (March 21-April 20)

It is possible to speak without saying anything – just as it is not unusual to listen but not hear. Current cosmic forces urge you to recognize the subtext and to pick your words with care. There is much to be learned and earned right now, but only if you work at it.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

No one's working against you, but the Sun moves into your element this week and you may feel that friends and family are less supportive than normal. The fact is, others feel the same way that you do. Be positive, Bull – it's only a phase. Celebrate "today!"

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

How you earn, spend and save your money while your ruling planet Mercury retrogrades now must be put under a microscope and realistic economies developed. Nothing too permanent, mind you, but there are still areas which need slimming and streamlining.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

Uh-huh: Holidays lookin' harried, eh? Now is one of those celestial stretches in which you have plenty of energy to do the things you enjoy, but very little when it comes to routine chores.

Rather than waste time or fret, concentrate on doing what appeals to you.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23)

An offer of support should be taken at face value – especially if it provides a way out of a recent dilemma. Let others help, Lion! With a change of scenery beckoning, simply weigh all the options before settling on a course of action; ease up about responsibilities.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23)

Criticisms over a creative project appear to be well-founded, and if others see matters differently, it is because they lack your close involvement. Refuse to let it be a problem and it won't become one. Speak your mind, and smile and celebrate – for now, anyway.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23)

Planning is critical, although confusing now, if you're trying to stay a couple of steps ahead of the clock or competition. Outer planet aspects urge you to say what has to be said to those who should hear it. Don't be shy. Behave like a winner and you'll be one!

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

Positive astro-aspects to your ruler Pluto in the coming days divines that partners and loved ones will benefit from your advice – even if it's not what they want to hear. Since they seem to be feeling vulnerable just now, delicacy and diplomacy are essential.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

A financial decision has to be made before the end of the year, and with Saturn's methodical influence, Sadges should have no trouble in deciding what needs to be done. The important thing is that you do it, and then forget about it. Worrying will get you nowhere.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 21)

Even if you don't feel like concentrating on serious issues right now, there are still obligations that have to be honored as your b-day unfolds. However, ruling planet Saturn says that you can handle your duties at this time – and still have time left to enjoy yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan 22-Feb 19)

Too much stress is harmful to your sensitive system, so don't feel guilty about delegating certain home and family responsibilities and, if necessary, discarding some. It's easy for Water-bearers to get trapped on a treadmill – the time has come to prove you can get off.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)

The holiday may have you feeling the need to make certain changes to your life, but unless you're 100 percent committed to them, they'll never get off the ground. Mercury is still retrograde now; anything is possible – as long as you know what you truly want.

Dennis Fairchild is the Birmingham astrologer. For personal consult info, call (248) 644-3555 or e-mail enFairchild@aol.com.

'Nemo' and 'King' top 2003's films

(AP) – The animated fish tale Finding Nemo and the fantasy epic The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King are among the American Film Institute's top 10 movie picks for 2003.

The group's top 10 list announced Sunday ranged from such historical spectacles as Tom Cruise's *The Last Samurai* and Russell Crowe's *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* to the intimate character studies *Lost in Translation* and *In America*.

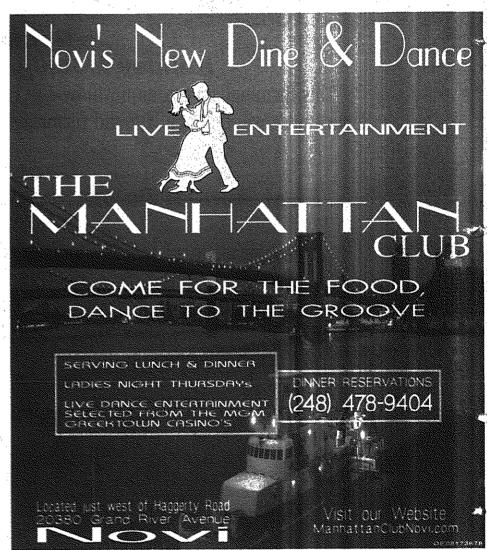
The list, which did not rank the 10

films, also included American Splendor, The Human Stain, Mystic River and Monster.

The AFI also chose its top 10 television programs of the year: Alias, Angels in America, Arrested Development, Everybody Loves Raymond, Joan of Arcadia, Nip/Tuck, Playmakers, Soldier's Girl, 24 and The Wire.

The lists were chosen by 13-member panels of filmmakers, critics, scholars and AFI board members. Top films and shows will be honored at an AFI luncheon Jan. 22.





erver & Eccentric | Thursday, December 18, 2003 • (**) E

SWING MING MARKET STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

December 5, 12 & 19, 6-10 p.m.

Three great events in one!
Enjoy free transportation throughout downtown,
free parking in all five decks, in-store specials & more!

December 5
Holiday Moonlight Shopping Spree

This Birmingham tradition will be <u>the</u> Friday event for families and friends to enjoy!

Santa House will be open late, and visitors will enjoy free carriage rides, carrolers and more.

December 12
First Annual Downtown Birmingham Jewelry Crawl

Ride minibuses to any or all of Downtown Birmingham's jewelers for trunk shows, in-store entertainment and specials. This sparkling spree is great for holiday shopping!

December 19
Customer Appreciation Night

Special in-store events honor customers! Unique gift ideas, free gift-wrapping and refreshments.

Coats for C.O.T.S.

Collection of outerwear, hats, gloves, coats for C.O.T.S. (Coalition On Temporary Shelter) in Detroit. Each participating store will host a collection box throughout the holidays.

For more information call Downtown Birmingham at 248-433-3550 or visit www.enjoybirmingham.com; click on "calendar" or "news".



Real Estate Inquires

Robert M. Meisner

Seek legal advice on easements

We have a shared driveway and my neighbor has been using the driveway for nearly 20 years. However, I believe that he has an alternative access to his lot and am wondering whether or not I have any argument to stop him from doing so. Do you have any suggestions?

It would appear from your question that there has been a continuous use of the driveway by your neighbor for a period of time and a court may well construe that to be an implied easement over the shared driveway. In order for you to somehow indicate that that so-called implied easement or easement by necessity is not valid, you would have to establish that the effort and expense of constructing another driveway for access to his lot would have to be more difficult and costly. The court will look to whether or not an alternative means is reasonable under the circumstances in order to defeat the implied easement or easement by necessity that your neighbor may have. It would no doubt involve a trial with factual issues to be determined by a

We have a warranty deed which conveyed the property to us subject to building and use restrictions, and easement of record, if any, I later found that there was a woodland buffer requirement which is now precluding us from getting a swimming pool based upon the township's statement of our deed restrictions. However, the woodland buffer area was not recorded. What do you think our chances are of getting that set

court.

If in fact the final plat plan in your subdivision did not contain any reference to the woodland buffer, you have a strong argument that you were not informed of the restriction and could not be held to it. Since the buffer restriction was not of record, the clause in the deed regarding restrictions of record did not give you notice of the woodland buffer area. Therefore, you would have a good argument that neither the township nor the association has any basis to enforce that restriction against you.

Robert M. Melsner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track; second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@mich.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

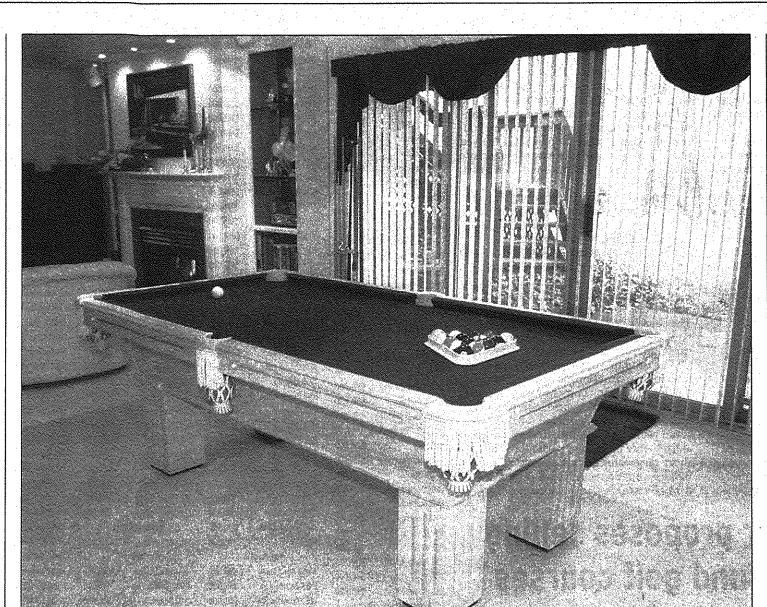
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For the Best Home Buys in your Hometon check the Sunday and Thursday **Real Estate Section**



Real Estate

A billiard table and fireplace are focal points of the lower level of this Oakland Township home.

Spacious lower level has many purposes

BY NORMAN PRADY CORRESPONDENT

You could call it a recreation room, but this room in an Oakland Township home is a lot different from knotty pine basements of the 1950s.

"First of all," said home-owner Michael Thomas, a retired auto executive, "the stairs from the first level are off the foyer. It's not like a closed-off basement." The setting "is conducive to being in an open room that you have to do something with."

Thomas and his wife, Patricia, a retired school teacher, did something with this space about five years after moving into the home they bought new in 1987.

They capitalized on the lower-level walkout to create "a functional area" with, as Thomas said, "a party atmosphere.

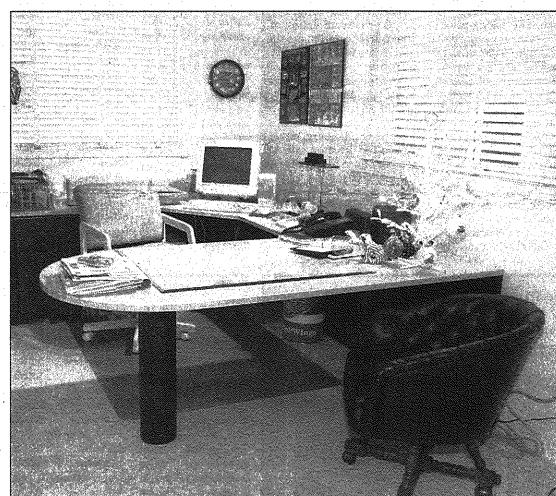
The space, more than 1,000 square feet, was renovated to include a family room, fireplace, bar, full kitchen, media center, workout room and bedroom with full bath. Double sliding doors open to the backyard, an acre of woods overlooking Paint Creek.

There's 2,934 square feet of living space on the main level of the home.

ASKING PRICE

Marlene Law, associate broker with Century 21 Town & Country, Rochester, is the real estate agent. The asking price is \$539,715.

Lookers love the lower level," Law said. "It's the premier room of the house. I've heard some say they can picture their teenagers having football parties there, with the big-screen TV, the surround sound and the pool table,"

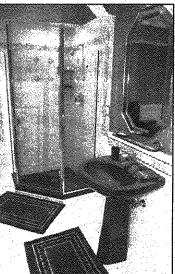


There's even an office in the lower level of the Thomas home in Oakland Township.

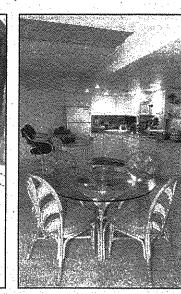
'Lookers love the lower level. It's the premier room of the house."

Marlene Law associate broker, Century 21

To be considered for our Rooms that Sell Houses feature, mail, email, or fax Keely Kaleski, assistant managing editor features, information about outstanding rooms. Write to Kaleski at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, email kkaleski@oe.homecomm.net, fax (248) 644-1314 or call (248) 901-2587 for more information.



A full bath is one of the many features of the lower level.



There's a full kitchen in the lower

Mortgage

Tim 'Timbo' **Phillips**



Fannie, Freddie set 2004 limits

annie Mae and Freddie Mac, America's two largest home loan repositories, will now allow their borrowers to borrow up to \$33,000 more for singlefamily residence purchases. The new conforming loan limit of \$333,700 is up from the 2003 limit of \$300,700.

This increase, though it may seem nominal, calculates out to a full 10 percent over the previous maximum. The change should allow about a quarter-million borrowers to obtain lower-cost mortgages, saving them \$30,000 to \$40,000 in interest over the life of their loans.

Jumbo borrowers with existing loan balances that just barely exceed the old limit — current balances between \$300,700 and \$333,700 — can potentially refinance their existing mortgage into the extended "nonjumbo" category, take some cash out, and still lower their monthly mortgage payment.

Even homeowners who remain slightly above the new limit may benefit from the change. Piggy-back or split loans are still great alternatives for those seeking the warmer waters outside the jumbo zone.

An existing jumbo borrower with a 30-year mortgage of \$310,000 may have an interest rate of 7 percent that yields a monthly mortgage payment of about \$2,062. In this scenario, the borrower can take out \$20,000 in cash, lower his interest rate by about onehalf percent and still drop his mortgage payment.

IMPROVING YOUR SITUATION

Additionally, these exjumbo borrowers may now access other conforming loan products that may improve their situation. Short-term adjustable rate mortgages are very popular for borrowers with loans approaching the upper conforming loan limit. In most instances, a three- or fiveyear ARM can save homeowners enough money to pay for a subsequent refinance many times over.

These conforming loans offer significantly lower interest rates during the beginning years of the 30year term. They later convert to an adjustable-rate loan. Depending on market timing and the type of ARM, nearjumbo borrowers can usually shave an additional one-half to 1 percent off a comparable fixed-rate loan's interest rate.

If you are not sure if the new loan limits affect you, you can usually get a decent analysis of your situation with a quick phone call to your mortgage loan officer.

Timothy J. Phillips is a mortgage broker and newspaper columnist. You may access his archives at www.HomeQuarters.BIZ, and or phone him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.

Real Estate One1F

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\$175,000

\$208,000

\$145,000

\$145,000

\$87,000

1760 Carpenter

Rates on 30-year and 15-year mortgages fall

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rates on 30-year and 15-year mortgages moved down this week, good news for people interested in buying a home.

For the week ending Dec. 12, the average rate on 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages fell to 5.88 percent, down from 6.02 percent the previous week, Freddie Mac, the mortgage giant, reported Thursday in its weekly nationwide survey of mortgage rates.

Rates on 30-year mortgages slid to 5.21 percent, the lowest level in more than four decades, in the middle of June. Since then, rates on these benchmark mortgages have bounced up and down.

For 15-year fixed-rate mortgages, a popular option for refinancing, the average rate dropped to 5.24 percent, down sharply from 5.36 percent last week. Rates for one-year adjustable mort-

unchanged for the third straight week. A year ago, rates on 30-year mortgages averaged 6.04 percent, 15-year mortgages were 5.46 percent and one-year adjustable

gages, however, averaged 3.77 percent,

mortgages stood at 4.18 percent. The nationwide averages for mortgage rates do not include add-on fees known as

Thirty-year loans carried an average fee

of 0.7 point this week. Fifteen-year and one-year adjustable rate mortgages each carried an average fee of 0.6 point.

"Mortgage rates continue to be spectacularly low at present, especially when you consider that a generation ago, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rate was triple today's rates," said Freddie Mac's chief economist, Frank Nothaft.

Even with the recent gyration in mortgage rates, economists predict home sales will hit record highs this year and post their second-best year ever in 2004.

Separately, the Mortgage Bankers Association of America said refinancing accounted for 49.4 percent of all homemortgage applications filed last week, down from 50 percent the previous week. The share of adjustable rate mortgages, however, increased to 29.3 percent last week, up from 26.6 percent.

The drop in refinancings as a share of total loan originations is bringing to light the desire of many homebuyers to look at adjustable rate and hybrid loan products those where the rate is fixed for three to seven years - as an alternative to traditional fixed-rate financing, particularly as short-term rates remain so low," said Jay Brinkmann, the association's vice president of research and economics.

City manager proposes selling property to fund golf courses

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Great Falls, Montana City Manager John Lawton is suggesting the city develop about 20 acres of property near one of its golf course and sell it to a housing developer.

Then the city could use the proceeds to finish renovating the golf course and repay the city for loans made during the renova-

Lawton made the proposal Monday during a City Commission work session.

He estimated it would cost about \$1.5 million for infrastructure improvements to the property near the Eagle Falls Golf Course. The city expects to receive at least \$3 million when it sells the property to developers.

"The city is not propos-

ing to go into the development business," Lawton said.

"We don't want to compete with developers ... we could sell chunks of land, but we get less income from it."

The city nearly sold part of the property recently to Pasta Montana for a warehouse, but the deal fell through. The asking price for that property reportedly was less than \$100,000.

The work session was called primarily to discuss the city's plan to transfer about \$300,000 over two years from the general fund to pay for revenue shortfalls at Eagle Falls and Anaconda Hills, both operated by the city.

Even though the courses produced more revenue... last fiscal year than the previous year, expenses were much higher, mostly

because of debt service. The city has spent almost \$3 million remodeling 14 holes at Eagle Falls, and about \$2.1 million still is owed to bondholders.

Lawton favors finishing the last four holes of the Eagle Falls project "to make the golf course whole." He told commissioners that completion of the course would make the real estate venture more attractive to developers.

al was preliminary and would require much more

Patty Gumenberg, city recreation director, said fees will have to increase at the city golf courses to improve revenue. She said the city expects to take in an additional \$77,000 in the next fiscal year if play

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real week of Sept. 8-12 at the Oakland Listed below are cities addresses, and sales prices.

2464 Allerton \$150,000 \$88,000 904 Chestnut Hill \$310,000 3718 Crestwood \$222,000 3930 Forester 3936 Forester \$240,000 3985 Forester \$171,000 3991 Forester \$169,000 3993 Forester \$170,000 3049 Hill \$120,000 228 Jotham \$199,000 \$131,000 65 Oakmont \$169,000

666 Provincetow Beverly Hills 31535 Relivine \$410,000 31835 Beverly \$335,000 16980 Buckinghan \$323,000 17976 Dunblaine \$310,000 31900 Eastlady \$597,000 31881 Vallen \$329,000 \$344,000 Bingham Farms

31365 Coachlight \$390,000 30375 Oakview Way 32908 Outland \$313,000 30745 River Crossing 1039 Bird \$223,000 \$332,000 1075 Canterbury \$288,000 2586 Dorchester \$249,000

1427 Humphrey \$148,000 1942 Humphrey \$269,000 898 N Adams \$140,000 437 N Eton \$135,000 230 Pleasant \$310,000 1229 Stanley \$380,000 662 Vinewood \$425,000 Bloomfield Hills/Township \$677,000 4409 Ardmore

3255 Berkshire

607 Deauville

These are the Observer &

44394 Harsdale

1327 Echo 2555 Essex 1141 Fox Chase \$471,000 2805 Franklin \$228,000 2378 Heronwood \$1,075,000 760 Kennebec 4536 Kirkcaldy 2286 Lancaster 7250 Mohansic 120 N Williamsbury 490 Newburne Pointe 3791 Oakhilis

Lawton said his proposstudy.

remains steady.

\$246,000

32434 Nestlewood

\$340,000

3595 Wabeek Road

7138 White Pine \$355,000 28603 Oak Point \$325,000 160 Edith \$180,000 \$395,000 1535 Grange 2512 Whiteleigh \$350,000 34663 Old Timber \$360,000 \$280,000 2422 Cedar Knol \$295,000 670 Wilshire \$315,000 21875 Ontaga \$176,000 737 Colebrook \$191,000 2427 Malena \$236,000 180 Woodedge 21175 Rensselaei \$80,000 2691 Noble \$409,000 2007 Enterprise \$275,000 5480 Woodview \$375,000 21390 Robinson \$194,000 35 Ridge Field \$316,000 2050 Enterprise \$280,000 \$237,000 \$140,000 27970 Rollcrest \$195,000 \$130,000 3911 Highland 42365 Woodward 2t Stanton 30955 Runnymede 1779 Langford \$220,000 \$192,000 5170 Alta \$310,000 28508 Venice \$255,000 490 Baldwin \$102,000 1047 Milverton \$234,000 6454 Ancroff \$239,000 30028 W 12 Mile \$87,000 1079 Moran \$438,000 2841 Shadvwood \$375,000 3792 Bristol \$365,000 30515 W 14 Mile 106 S Alice \$173,000 431 Starr \$217,000 \$260,000 28428 W 8 Mile \$85,000 1420 Tulberry \$404,000 3438 Wolvering \$245,000 \$225,000 \$336,000 28400 Westerleigh \$220,000 113 Walnut \$158,000 1666 Woodgate \$350,000

105 E Oakwood

5607 Heathland 9474 Maple 1510 Colony 8906 Morning Mist \$530,000 31065 Lucerne \$1,475,000 \$213,000 1822 Alton \$182,000 1770 Dogwood \$300,000 6214 Parkridge \$295,000 \$216,000 Keego Harbor 2187 Crystal 4393 Parnell \$135,000 3105 Varjo 238 E Tienken 2138 Hidden Meadows \$148,000 \$123,000 9254 Semindale \$165,000 Lake Orion 2013 Fairfield \$262,000 2539 Kingstowne \$269,000 \$131,000 8963 Shiawassee 830 Alan \$180,000 820 Fieldstone \$255,000 2683 Kingstowne \$619,000 \$113,000 9071 Stonehause 4120 Bandury \$320,000 1369 Greenleaf \$340,000 540t Sunnyside 2330 Hillandala \$229,000 \$142,000 1160 Beach \$95,000 \$150,000 2261 Meadow Brook 3077 Canada \$329,000 \$210,000 5376 Tamarack Park \$185,000 \$194,000 1648 Kilburn 3148 Moranza 2339 Cedar Key \$235,000 9062 Tartan \$196,000 \$460,000 479 N Oak \$500,000 2687 Cedar Key \$296,000 2108 Lagoon \$398,000 1458 Silverbrook Ridae \$50,000 \$190,000 337 E Flint \$158,000 2966 Leyton \$345,000 Waterford 337 E Flint Commerce To \$95,000 \$281,000 7840 Academy \$232,000 5680 Berkley \$152,000

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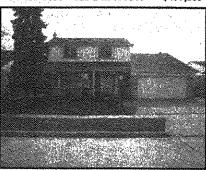
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Entertain with style and ease in this classic colonial popular development. Vaulted family room and breakfast room open to warm and cozy 4-seasons room. Park-like back yard w/wrap around deck.

734-455-6000 32DE-23108648



DEARBORN HEIGHTS Impeccable best describes this beauty. Updates galore: kitchen; baths; roofing; Florida room w/2 skylights; large family room w/brick surround gas FP. 800+ sq. ft. of finished living space in basement.

734-455-6000 29WI-23117500 \$282,900



PLYMOUTH Walk to everything. True walking distance to downtown Plymouth, Clean & neutral T/O. New full bath in basement. Master w/cathedral ceiling, WIC & access to bath, 2nd floor laundry, Great location in complex.

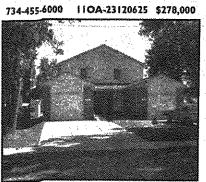


SOUTH LYON This stately executive home, located on a deep wooded lot in desirable golf course community, is tastefully decorated in soft contemporary colors and impeccably maintained. Professionally finished lower level.

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CANTON Rebuilt from 1 wall, open contemporary floor plan 3 lots in subdivision setting. Maple and Corian kitchen with upscale appliances and 3-way



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esi we Co	Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug. 4-8 at the Wayne		2164 Hendrie	\$360,000	16542 Blue Skies	\$299,000			9599 Woodbine	\$118,000
			4480 Hunters	\$161,000	9501 Cardwell	\$130,000	Plymouth	9		
		unty Register of Deeds office.	42827 Lilley Pointe	\$130,000	17226 Country Club	\$245,000	9410 Ball	\$230,000	Westland	
	Listed below are cities es, and sales prices.	, address-	1774 Oakview	\$191,000	33183 Fargo	\$83,000	725 Irvin	\$210,000	1620 Ackley	\$120,000
	Canton	$\mathcal{F}_{i_1} = \mathcal{F}_{i_2}$	7255 Peachtree	\$262,000	18510 Foch	\$87,000	40911 ivywood	\$257,000	1950 Alexander	\$180,000
	603 Concord	\$227,000	47115 Sherwood	\$278,000	27588 Grandon	\$229,000			6605 Caribou	\$150,000
	40760 Deer Pines	\$85,000	733 Stonehenge	\$208,000	32311 Hees '	\$165,000	Redford		32972 Creston	\$128,000
	6408 Durham	\$213,000	Garden City		10021 Seltzer	\$164,000	16844 Brady	\$113,000	32612 Lone Pine	\$176,000
	1472 Emerald Pines	\$85,000	6550 Cadillac	\$150,000	15637 Shadyside	\$130,000	12869 Dixie	\$135,000	32854 Mecosta	\$71,000
	1724 Emerald Pines	\$85,000	28529 Dawson	\$110,000	36132 Sherwood	\$268,000	17236 Lennane	\$156,000	218 S Carlson	\$164,000
	44669 Fenwick	\$332,000	Livonia		14702 Stonehouse	\$183,000	12118 Nathaline	\$155,000	2617 S John Hix	\$250,000
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Theater guild launches house raffle

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For Michigan residents, the house of your dreams could just be a click and a phone call away. St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook in Bloomfield

Hills is launching the first-ever statewide house raffle. There will be 15,000 raffle tickets at \$100 per ticket available immediately by visiting the

AmericanHouseRaffles.com Web site, clicking the state of Michigan, and calling toll free (866) WIN IN MI (946-4664).

Proceeds from all ticket sales will benefit the nonprofit organization.

This mega-raffle, which uses the Web site to leverage the power of the Internet, is open to all Michigan residents 18 years or older. Ticket purchasers have the chance to win \$400,000 toward the purchase of the winner's dream house anywhere in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii, or \$300,000 cash, as well as 250 other cash prizes.

The chances to win a prize are 1 in 100 or better, including an "Early Bird" drawing in mid-January with chances of winning 1 in 20. These early winners are also still eligible for all remaining prizes.

The raffle ends at 5 p.m. Feb. 28, and the Grand Prize Drawing, including the 150 additional cash prizes, will be held at 5 p.m. Feb. 29.

"We're creating a way for nonprofits to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars while reaching new audiences by leveraging Internet technology as never before," said Howard Glasser, president of Interactive Fundraising Technologies, the company whose technology powers the Web site. "We can reach potential raffle ticket buyers across the entire state of Michigan

by making information about the raffle and St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild available online at www.AmericanHouseRaffles.com."

We have turned to this breakthrough concept to raise desperately needed funds in a novel and exciting way," said Gary Jones, St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild president. "The AmericanHouseRaffles.com technology allows us to tap into a huge statewide audience of potential participants and thereby raise significant monies to help continue our work in serving the community. Just go to the site, click to the state, call tollfree (866) WIN IN MI (946-4664) ... and buy. It's also a great time of year to be offering this - a ticket can make an excellent holiday gift."

"As a result of the sluggish economy, nonprofits everywhere are struggling to raise funds," said Roger Goeb, chief technology officer for IFT and former vice president of technology for Warner Bros. Online. "But with www.AmericanHouseRaffles.com, we help them reach new, much larger audiences of consumers in a fun, easy-to-use format. We've taken the traditional raffle and brought it into the modern world of technology."

American House Raffles.com is also providing a fully staffed toll-free call center in Michigan to facilitate raffle ticket purchases. Once bought, the operator issues tickets to purchasers by e-mail and enters all information into the American House Raffles.com system. Their patent-pending algorithm will then be used by St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild to randomly select winners and award the prize money to lucky

In states allowing nonprofit raffle ticket purchases directly online, American House Raffles.com offers a fully automated Web site.

Vacancy rates soar in Colorado resort areas

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apartment vacancy rates in Colorado's mountain resorts reached "shocking" record highs in the third quarter, according to state officials.

The Colorado Division of Housing said Lake County, which includes Leadville, had a 32.8 percent vacancy rate, the highest ever recorded for a submarket in Colorado. The rate is more than double what it was a year ago, when it was 14.2 percent.

And Eagle County, which includes Vail and Beaver Creek, saw its vacancy rate rise to 17.2 percent from 1.2 percent.

Overall, the vacancy rate for the state excluding the Denver area - was 11.1 percent, compared with 9.1 percent a year earlier.

The numbers were put together by University of Denver business professor Gordon Von Stroh. They were so surprising that state officials asked him to verify the figures.

Peri Solder, the owner-broker of Alpine Realty in Leadville, was stunned by the numbers for her small community, where

195 units were surveyed. "I'm not sure where they're getting those numbers from," Solder said. "The market is not great, but it's better than last year."

The report tracks resorts, urban areas and regional areas outside of the Denver. Von Stroh conducted his survey in September, and said the renting activity has picked up substantially since then.

"My sense was that in September, businesses and resorts were being much more strategic and a lot more careful in terms of the hiring process than they had been in past years," Von Stroh said.

Leadville was hit particularly hard because many construction workers live there while working on projects nearby, he

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IN THE BEST OF TASTE - DESIRABLE PLYMOUTHEngaging 4 bedroom colonial w/
gracious formal living & dining areas, a private study, and a family room winat. Family room with cozy gas fireplace, fireplace & wet bar. Hardwood floors & exceptional master with raised ceiling, better carpet add charm & warmth. A private bath and skylights. Convenient all in a beautiful residential area of superb finished basement, 2 car Beech Dalv in Redford. Call to see garage, and a fenced yard! Priced to



hospitable 4BR/2.5BA colonial! Large





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1st floor laundry, attached 2-car Beech Daly in Redford. Call to see garage, and a fenced yard! Priced to sell. \$204,900 (353MO)





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most of the updating already done for updating this gorgeous 3 bedroom bedrooms plus an extra room in the you including plumbing, siding, new ranch. Kitchen and bath are gems! finished lower level, 2.5 baths, 2 car driveway, and ceramic tile floors. Glowing hardwood floors, entire home garage, central air and security Private lot backs to a ravine. Spacious has been tastefully repainted. Full systems, a Florida room and more all centrally located highway access. \$224,900 (634SC)

location with Wayne road frontage in

an office mall near Cherry Hill, Could

be used as a small retail shop with 980

sq.ft. Super low rent. Call for details.

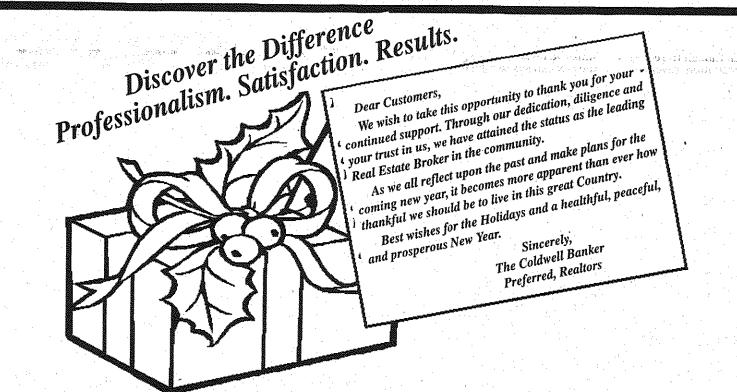
\$700.00 (066WA)



family room w/fireplace, hardwood floors and charming neutral décor. Roomy island kitchen w/nook is great for family gatherings. Terrific master w/ private bath & WIC. Immediately available, \$309,900 (221TI)



TRIPLE LOT! - 3BR colonial redone nside and out with a 3-car garage & triple lot! New "tear-off" roof, siding, furnace, hwh, plumbing & electrical. Remodeled bath and oak kitchen, new carpeting and a freshly painted interior. year home warranty included \$139,900 (521NE)





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GOLF COURSE COMMUNITY - POPULAR NEIGHBORHOOD -



Guest quarters with garage with new door, glass block





CONDOS basement, 1st floor laundry, attached more details. \$154,900 (429KI) 2-car garage and many extras! \$219,900 (948NE)



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clubhouse and pool. \$174,900 (500LA) fireplace, 2-car garage, and a partially



2 baths and 2 powder rooms, a

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landscaping, deck & court location an antique tin ceiling and custom oak and a short walk to downtown. Special



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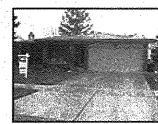
BRIGHTON Own your own lake.. Come see this custom log home. Remodeled lot, backs to trees. Gour kit, nook colonial. 2 BRS, 2 1/2 baths. 2 from '94 to '96, 13 acres w/10 acre w/Corian cntrtops, hdwd firs, extra story foyer. Kit includes all appl's. lake unbelievable view from every conts & top of the line appls. Lux Great rm w/gas FP. Mast ste lead glass window. Large rooms. mstr w/cath clg, fash bath, WIC. w/cath clg. 2 car garage. Bsmt Come see! (BGSLY20COW) 888- GR w/soaring clg. Pool. BGP- w/daylight/garden windows. BGP-



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\$189,900 LIVONIA Pride of Ownership! All brick Brick Ranch w/Great Value! This 3 bdrm, 1 bath brick ranch. New ranch, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, beautiful buyers choice has newer roof, & furn '03, newer roof (3 yrs), all Merillat oak kitchen w/newer howd floors, family-sized kitchen, vinyl windows Copper plumbing, newer appliances included, Kenmore appliances. Deep sinks, large dining area w/doorwall to full basement & spacious 2 car updated kitchen w/new cabs, 1.5 wine rack, newer windows, large yard, 2.5 car garage, finished garage. Easy access to highways, baths on main floor, howd firs Home warranty. (BGN65HIX) 888-870-9123



Charming Home, Large corner lot, Mintl Upper ranch in desirable. These fenced yard with sprinkler system. Echo Valley, Beaut kit w/nwr maple. Condominiums! Rarely come on HUGE master bedroom, formal cabs, cntr, sink & firng, Upgraded the market and when they do, they dining room just off the kitchen, cabs, sink, mrns & fixtures in both sell fast. Spacious with 2.5 baths, open into the family room. I year baths. Nwr vinyl wndws & drwll. 2 car att.garage, and stunning Home Warranty. (BGSLY46ASH) Well mntnd cmplx w/clbhse & pool, decor. (BGN54MEA) 888-870-Gas & water incl in condo fee. Nwr 9123 crpt. OEL52ECH 888-870-9105





\$135,900 FARMINGTON HILLS Townhouse Style



FARMINGTON HILLS \$159,000 FARMINGTON HILLS Spacious 2br. 2 bath Ranch Condo! W/bsmnt. Prime end unit Ranch! With 2.5 car garage. w/extra large living room Located on an oversized lot in w/fireplace & kitchen. Many Farmington School district. Large windows for superb light exposure. Looks brand new Meticulous!



Spacious 3bdrm, 2 full bath kitchen, separate living rm & dining rm, c/a & more. (BGN20TUL) 888-870-9123

\$234,900

LIVONIA



Beautiful well maintained. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, brick bungalow. NE Inkster, 2 1/2 car garage. Finished basement. New Kitchen, newer windows. Freshly painted 888-870-9131





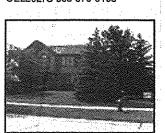
\$159,900 MACKINAW Kimberly Oaksi Vlean 3 bdrm, 2 Your private resort best describes Great price on this clean & neat well Motel and resort. 365 ft on Huron. Newer 3 Bedroom Colonial on 3 bdrms w/1st fi master. Great rm Meticulous Colonial Poyal Crown bath, tri-level. Close to schools, 3 bdrm, 2 full bath home. LR w/FP. built 3 bdrm, 1 bath brick ranch 11+ acres,50% developed. Bridge Almost an Acre. Open Floor plan, w/vaulted ceiling, frplc & doorwall features clean colonial surrounded city hall & new recreation center. Kitchen w/oak cabinets & w/alum trim in "Livonia Estates." Lg & island views, 24 units, 4RV neutral and ready to move into. to deck overlooking golf course & by mature trees. Spacious LR & Beautiful newer oak kitchen plus appliances. Large FR overlooking space & all approved for 25, many return Great room with cathedral ceilings pond. FR upper level. Fin. lower DR. GR has FP & cath ceiling. apples. Partly finished bsmnt w/glass customers. Land contract. 15 years - fireplace, sprawling kitchen, 2 car level w/4 rooms. Lease includes Neutral throughout! Lg master blk wind, washer & dryer, C/A, vinyl for present o wners. garage.



MILFORD (BGSLY57OLD) 888-870-9131



\$204,900 NORTHVILLE \$2250/mo NOVI basement, association fee. OEL85VIL 888- w/jacuzzi tub, Finished bsmt, BGP-



under carpet, fin bsmnt.



Country Club Village. Executive Perfect Court Location! Stunning home on estate size lot, Hardwood 4BR, 4.5BA, formal LR w/FP, dual firs, spacious kit w/Hearth Rm. staricases & library w/built-ins. Cherry cabs, Corian counters. 5 Spacious kit w/island opens to FR BR, 1 on first floor, 4 up, 4.5 baths. w/FP & access to yard w/paver 4 car gar. Walk-out LL. BGP-11Fel



FR w/fplc. Refrig, stove, & wind 1/2 acre lot w/above ground pool

treatment remain. OEL51WES w/large wood deck, OEL21GRA

PLYMOUTH \$560,000 patio & spa. Prof fin LL. BGP-07Whi 888-870-9127



windows, updated electrical service. (BGSLY46US2) 888-870-9131

PLYMOUTH laundry. 4BR, 2.5BA, daylight (BGN35BYR) 888-870-9123 bsmt. Available in Nov. BGP-00Elm 888-870-9127



\$439,000 PLYMOUTH New Affordable Construction In Charming Brick Home! Near Plymouth! On small lake Downtown Plymouth. 4bdrms, 2 conveniences. 3BR brick ranch. Woodbrook. Towering trees, Home w/ceramic tile foyer, w/stonecast FP, cherry cbnt, baths; 2262 square feet, newer granite cntrs. Custom mlds & trim. kitchen, updated bath, Brazilian hdwd firs. Ceramic BA & pvt.backyard & mature trees.



.. Close to all Country Setting. 16Nic 888-870-9127



PLYMOUTH \$259,000 A Rare Find! A ranch in charming 888-870-9127



PLYMOUTH Holiday Shopping? Updated kit. Huge FR w/brick FP. winding streets. Close enough to updated kitchen open to living, LR also has a FP. Attached 2 car walk to town! Great floor plan, finished lower level, howd in all garage. Nice patio and Ig front Gracious toyer w/slate flr. 2 full BA. bdrms, 2.5 car garage, huge porch. Walk to golf course. BGP- FR w/FP. 2 car gar. BGP-78Cha fenced yard. WOW! (BGN49SPI) 888-870-9123



newer roof, updated electrical, newer HWH. OEL13HAZ 888-870-



\$137,900 REDFORD shield. Bull bsmnt w/glass blck (BGN11LEX) 888-870-9123 wndws. OEL31KEE 888-870-9105



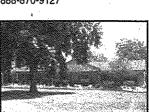
updates. Wallside Windows, newer bdrm, alum bnglw in a very nice Galorel 3bdrms, 1.5 ba, newer Berber carpet, kitchen w/new area of Redford. Exclint kit w/all windows, furnace, dimensional Pergo flr. Glass block windows, applics. Formal DR. Newer copper roof, remodeled kitchen, finished pimbng. Newer high-eff frnc & C/A. bsmnt, garage & fenced yard. A Newer roof shingles (tear-off) w/ice lovely home w/attractive decor t/ol



\$159,900 SALEM ROCKWOOD Wowl 3 bdrm brick bung. W/lots of Fantastic & many updates in this 3 Charming Bungalow w/Updates MINT! All new in 2003 including. Beautiful 6.96 acres in Salem Twp. Great opportunity! 12 acres, roof, windows, gutters and Posssible engineered field 40X60 cement floor pole barn. downspouts, doors throughout, all needed. No splits available per flooring, HWH, light fxtrs & freshly twp.(V/LCUR) 888-870-9131 painted. Newer oak ktchn cabs Shows like a model! OEL66GLA 888-870-9105



\$84,900



SOUTH LYON \$499,000 3100 sq. ft, ranch & 1200 sq. ft. finished LL media room. Needs to seen appreciate!(BGSLY71RUS) 888-



Impressive colonial w/1500 sq ft.. 3 BRS w/custom closets, 1.5 haths. Island kitchen, spacious eating area w/gas fireplace, private patio, 2 car garage. Beautiful landscaping, many upgrades.(BGSLY51STA)



area next to home. Perfect location Lake come see.(BGSLY23PRI) 888-870-



\$205,000 SOUTH LYON \$137,000 clubhouse+activities (BGSLY79CA M) 888-870-9131



\$84,900 Beautiful 2 story home. Many 55+ Adult co-op., Immaculate 1st. Clean and well maintained Adult coop-55 yrs or older. Nice 3 bdrm brick ranch in nghbrhd. Opportunity knocks! Established Great Value! 3BR ranch offers quality features, pergo flooring in floor has large oak kitchen, formal updated Co-op 55+! Nice open Beautifully decorated meticulously of all brick homes. Numerous updts gas station in a great location neutral decor t/o. Updates include: kitchen and dining room. Large dining Florida rm+patio. Finished floor plan! Newer kitchen, newer maintained! Living room has large incl roof, vinyl trim house/garage, w/lengthy lease term. This is a windows, roof, furnace, CA, H20 & second br large parcel w/common LL w/family rm, bath+guest rm, carpet, freshly painted. Basement, front window which is open to offers 3rd bedroom and family dining room - bedroom doorwall to HWH. Frpic in FR, huge covered lotto, gas, equipment included, table. Hdwd firs under carpet. room!(BGSLY26FRA) 888-870-



SOUTH LYON Florida room.(BGSLY14POT) 888-870-9131



TAYLOR \$149,900 wndws, front & side drs, C/A & furn, business only opportuity: C-store, kit. Fin bsmt w/bar, storage & pool patio in fenced yard, 2 car garage inventory is not included with the Covered patio. BGP-75Ter 888w/opener. Stove refrig & dish inc. sale. Owner will train if needed. 870-9127 OEL23DAR 888-870-9105



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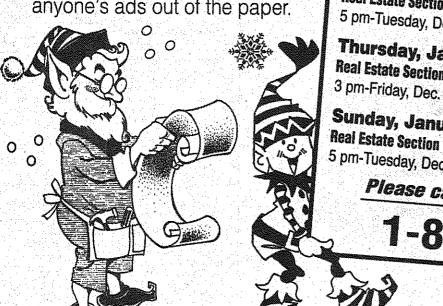
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Sunday, December 28th Publication **Real Estate Section Automotive Display** 5 pm-Tuesday, Dec. 23rd

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Automotive Display 3 pm-Friday, Dec. 26th Noon-Monday, Dec. 29th Sunday, January 4th Publication

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Help Wanted Display

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closet & full bath, hardwood
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garage, backs to woods \$214,900 CALL MARIE LaGROW REMERICA:

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best wishes for

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healthy, and

New Year!

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Dearborn

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w/possible 4th bed. Hardwood under most of carpets, lots of upgrades Attached 2.5 car upgrades Attached 2.5 car garage, all on a double lot. \$167,900 (P27VER) QUALITY PROPERTIES, INC., GMAC REAL ESTATE. (734) 451-5400

painted, newer furnace '99, c.a. '99, roof '99, master bed has walk in closet, 2 1/2 car garage, close to schools. Immediate 17GRA2 \$91,900 occupancy

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IMMACULATE 3 BED. BRICK HOME. This home offers many updates: roof, windows, viny eves & soffets. Spacious & lastefully decorated home refinished refinished hardwoods Enormous yard, L176 \$95,000

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blessings for the new year!

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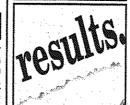
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wooded setting for 2,880
sq.ft. 4 bed, 2,5 bath
home. Great room w/ room w/bay window. Den w/built-ins. Kitchen w/ breakfast room & all appliances. First floor laundry. Hardwood floors on entry level. C/A. Part finished bsmt. Deck w/ BBQ. Side entry 2 car ga-rage. Circular dr. (HA280)

\$169,900 RANCH Immediate Occupancy brick ranch w/2 car side orick ranch w/2 car side entry garge. Living room w/fireplace, dining room, family, room, kitchen w/new floor & appliances. C/A. Deck overlooks private yard. Many updates. (AS325)

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friends &

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prosperous

New Year!

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price! Seller transfer. Must sacrifice

nearly new 2 BR w/att. garage,

bsmt & fireplace, All appliances included.

\$178,900



Extremely sharp Dutch colonial with 4 BR's and 3 baths. updates to list. Almost 2000 so ft w/full bsmt plus a 3 car garage for

\$247,900



LIVONIA **FARMINGTON HILLS**

Brick ranch, extremely well maint, 3 BR's, 1.5 bath w/att. gar & a full bsmt. Open fir plan & neutral decor. Lots of updates incl. win., doors, carpet, fur & a/c, 3 season rm \$172,500

5 BR, 2.5 BA home on 1/2 acre w/ stream. HW firs, newer roof & paint. Kit has W/I pantry, formal liv & din. rms. Huge 5th BR could be home office or playroom. Nrvle, mailing. Home warr. provided \$335,000





Stunning contemporary 3 BR, 2 bath ranch. 2+ car att. garage. Large lot w/Livonia schools. Completely updated. Mstr ste. w/ full bath & walk in closet. Must \$179,999

Nice Farmington Hills ranch w/ lots of updates. Almost 1,000 sq. ft. & a double lot. A new roof in 1999, an updated kit, plus 3 full month home warr. FFL. \$104,900



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(totally)

39 Sticky sweet 40 Sent a telegram

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hed. 1.5 bath home has hard-

wood floors, living room w/vaulted ceiling, updated

kitchen, finished basement. 2

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EXCEPTIONAL 3-4 bed., 2.5

bath Tudor, C/A, 2 fireplaces,

over \$20.000 in upgrades

Lake access, gorgeous views, premium lot! 23L3354

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32x24 garage

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room w/soaring cellings, great room w/wet bar, family room

w/fireplace & door to Florida

room. Well planned kitchen,

wonderful master suite and

partially finished basement. Deck with gazebo & garage!

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bedroom, large living room eat-in kitchen, spacious

windows, 2 car garage, Nice

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great room and nook Hardwood floors. Finisher basement, \$299,900. (38VI)

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throughout, 3 bed., 1.5 baths

on main floor, newer win-dows, electric & plumbing,

c.a., basement has wet bar, 24

car garage. Hurry, won't last!! 019184 \$179,900

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cathedral cellings

yard, \$189,900 (38RI).

(3250)

spacious

nook

hardwood Room, hardwood and newer vinyl

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23L3354

appointed, cherry

1st floor master

(3145) Farmington Hills

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(3150 Fenton

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ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 888-211-9560, 810-632-7427

Garden Cilv

COMFY CAPE COD is this 3 bed, brick home in Garden City, 2 full baths, 3 car garage. Lots of nice features newer windows, doorwall M319 deck. double lot. PC220412 \$149,999 A Rocal Mateta Bres....

734-326-2000 IMMACULATE RANCH home

features many updates inside & out including newer roof vinyl siding windows, carpet 8 paint. Oversized lot deck. Must sea. E285 PC220762 \$129,900 A Real Estate Bas...

734-326-2000

MOVE RIGHT IN 3 bed. Cape Cod w/large room sizes. Two car garage, newer windows, roof, interior paint, new carpet 11/03. Located half a block elementary. M332 \$133,000 S Reed Batata One.

734-326-2000 MUST SEE!

This 3 bed., 2 Bath Bungalow is close to Park, Bsmt, 2.5 car CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300 44958 Ford Rd. - Canton

OUTSTANDING 3 Bed., 2 full bath bungalow Finished bsmt, 2 car garage on a huge lot! Some newer carpeting, flooring, updating in kitchen & baths \$144,900 (73KAT

CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

It's no gamble...

...when you advertise in The Observer &

Eccentric

Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

designations 46 Fiji discoverer

- Tasman

47 "Alice"

48 Inspired

poetry 50 Radio part

51 Dory's need 52 Fairy-tale

heavy

54 Proposal

1 Rover's

3 Hi or bye

veggies

5 Bone-dry

4 Garden

55 Roll-call vote

greeting --- & the Gang

53 Spot

DOWN

waitress

Answers 12-18-03 ЯЫО FLO 738V WIRED AISLES
WASPER DINED PECAN FOGGIER FOR KIL MINE 1|8|0

8 Garden

bloom 9 Motion

24 Mess up 25 Mgmt, biggie 27 Woosnam or Ogle

23 Vitality

19 Newscaster

- Rather

20 Jopiin genre 22 Witty remark

AKC

29 Fire-engine color Tyranno-Saurus -34 Not fragrant

35 Tablet 36 Be rude, slangily 37 Snow house 39 Narrow inlet 40 Play in the

kiddie pool Egret cousin Harvest 43 Kirghiz range 44 Tense 45 Withered

47 Watch pocket 49 Jellyfish habitat

yard w/commons 76JAM2 \$300,000

A Real Estate One... 248-348-6430

nook, hall & powder room.
Crown molding in toyer, hall,
family room & baths. Extra
deep basement. Extra wide driveway. 24FOR2 \$349,900

248-348-6430

3250

INCKNEY COLONIAL. Newer Corian kitchen w/stainless appliances! 3 bed., 2.5 bath, arge great room w/fireplace formal dining w/bay window master bath w/Jacuzzi, fin ished basement, 3 car garage great deck, backs to commons! 87VIN2 \$250,000

248-348-6430

car garage, fenced yard w/brick patio, Livonia schools & Real Estate Con.

248-348-6430 NORTH LIVONIA bedroom bungalow many updates. Remodeled bath, extra large utility room, new carpet, freshly painted, newer kitchen floor, two car garage with 220, large fenced ard. \$124,900

734-525-9600 Century 21 Hartford North

One/half acre lot in quie country sub in central Livonia. 1900 sq. ft. Cape Cod offers living room w/fireplace, family room, finished basement & undates throughout. Oversized mechanics 2 car garage w/loft. B14962 \$199,900

A Real Estate Sec. 734-591-9200

Sought After Nottingham Wands! Sprawling 4 bed quad on 1/2 acre cul-de-sac Florida room, walk-out, flooi to ceiling stone fireplace sprinklers.New c.a., neu decor. 23B1861 \$339,000

A Read Estate Des. 734-455-7000

STOP THE CAR . YOU'VE FOUND IT!

3 Bed., 2 bath brick ranch. Updated furnace, C/A, kitchen, Wallside windows w/ bay & more. Finished bsmt w/ 4th bedroom & bath, 2.5 car garage. \$169,900 (80SEL) CENTURY 21 ROW

(734) 464-7111 THE PERFECT PRESENT Lovely 4 bed cape cod. Great Northwest Livonia location. 1st Floor master bedroom 3.5 baths, kitchen w/ granite counters & ceramic floors finished bsmt, extra deep 2 car garage & separate 1 car detached garage. Just move in. \$334,900 (65DAR) CENTURY 21 ROW

(734) 464-7111 This full brick old world

charmer offers! Huge living room w/newer carpeting, for mal dining room, newer kitchen, electric, windows shingles, 1st floor laundry, 2 heautiful land car garage, beautiful l scape. L27901 \$151,900

A Real Estate Des... 734-591-9200

Welcome home to this well cared for ranch. The open floor plan waits w/full size basement copper plumbing electric, 2 car garage, win-dows updated. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Close to schools, parks & more L27604 PC070572 \$169,900

A Real Estate Doc. 734-591-9200

Wonderful Home Ready Now 3 bed., 1.5 bath, all brick ranch, full finished basement, 2 car garage. Cute, clean many updates Great neighbor nood & Livonia schools tool A9646 PC071132 \$155,000

& Paul Estate One.... 734-591-9200

FIND IT ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM Plymouth

3250

3280

You won't find more home for less moneyl 3 good sized bed., 2 baths, large living room w/gas fireplace, den/computer room could be 4th bed., 3 season sun room off rear w/8' doorwall, full finished basement w/wet bar daylight windows, attached garage, S19941 \$177,900

A Real Batate fina.... 734-591-9200

Northville

Livonia

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIE opportunity bordered by mature trees & delightful Westside neighborhood. Nice walk to downtown. Great investment. 57SUN2 \$159,900

A Real Estate Con... 248-349-6200

NORTHVILLE WOODLANDS Lot 107 - Central sub location Premium English garden stone patio. Custom landscape, 3 car garage, 3 baths, 2 lavs. Formal and informal staircases. Cherry kitchen, lots of hardwood flooring. Broker will con sider smaller home in trade fo down payment or if no trade broker will offer \$15,000 cred it toward purchase if close by February 10, 2004. ONE WAY REALTY

3290

(734) 522-6000

Beautifui Colonial Meadow Whispering Spacious 4 bed, home w/large master suite & bath. Wooded yard & front sidewalks a real plus. Newer roof, furnace & windows. Home warranty pro-vided, 09SUN2 \$290,000

A lived Estate line... 248-348-6430

CONTEMPORARY DESIGNED HOME. Great open floor plan, nice kitchen, finished base-ment w/famlly room, bar, bonus room & extra storage Deck w/bullt in storage, private entry brick paver patio &

FOUR BED., 2.5 BATH DUN-**BARTON PINES BEAUTY! Well** maintained & neutral throughout. Hardwood floors in fover

734-326-2000 Country in the city! This brick A Read Estate Cing... ranch sits on a half acre lot. New windows in family room

3340

3347

inckney

BEAUTIFUL AND SPACIOUS

choice location Plymouth! Walking distance from downtown, limited traffic 1236 sq. ft., 3 bed., 1.5 bath, low maintenance in & out. Brick fireplace in family room. 2 car garage, newer windows, furnace, hot water heater & more! A42520 \$204,900

734-591-9200 COLONIAL, former model, bed., 2.5 bath, over 3000 sq.ft., daylight bsmt, 3 car side

entry garage, loaded w REMERICA:

H O M E T O W N 734-459-6222

Cute + Cozy = Yours. This home is perfect for you! Updates galore! 3 bed. ranch, ample storage, 1 car garage, under market! Must see! Call information 23G14656 \$169,900

A Real Estate Cos... 734-455-7000

DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH LIVING AT IT'S FINEST 1-year new home shining w/tradition, Hickory flooring, fieldstone fireplace, huge gourmet kitchen, large lot, attached garage. This home is a must seel (P40UNI) \$524,900 QUALITY PROPERTIES, INC.

GMAC REAL ESTATE. (734) 451-5400

GREAT CURB APPEAL 4 bed. 3 1/2 bath w/Pergo, new paint, French doors, crown molding in den, bay window, wood trim. Finished base-ment, drywall, 1st floor laundry. Gazebo-deck-perennials R956 \$365,000 A Real Extess One...

734-326-2000

Like a Fine Wine this home has improved each vear since it was built. You'll love the woodwork ceilings & the imblance of fine living. Upper flat w/separate entry can be used for office. 23\$353 \$459,900

A Real Estate Con... 734-455-7000

MOTIVATED SELLER 4 bedroom Colonial on ½ acre with 3 car garage. \$239,900. MIKE HEATH 734-462-3600 Re/Max Alliance

PLYMOUTH TWP 3 bed, 1100 sq. ft. c.a, all appliances, garage, \$155,000. (734) 216-2024

PRIVATE COUNTRY EQUES TRIAN ESTATE on 5.68 acres Plymouth/Canton schools, S bed., 3.5 bath, 3-car garage 6534 sq. ft., finished walkout 1st floor master, corral/3-stal horse barn, cedar deck over-looks private pond. 91BRO2

248-348-6430

3347

Southfield

RIDGEWOOD WEST BRIGHT AIRY OPEN PLAN Exceptional home! 4 bed., 3.5 bath colonial. Meticulous 4 bed., 1.5 bath in family neighborhood. C.a., eat-in throughout! Spacious floor plan. Formal living room & dining room, family room w/fireplace. Fabulous master suite. Professional finished kitchen & separate dining.
All appliances & freezer
included, Fenced yard &
shed Price d to sell. Home
warranty. \$149,000 basement w/wet bar & 3rd bash. Picturesque setting whicircle drive! Call today! (P12QUA) \$425,000 QUALITY PROPERTIES, INC., GMAC REAL ESTATE. SHARP 3 BED. RANCH I

garage, family room w/fire-place & tons of updates

A Real Estate Ros...

734-591-9200

Welcome home! You'll be

proud to call this beautiful colonial your new home! Price

of ownership shines w/many updates: newer windows, sid-ing, roof, kitchen, electric box

appliances & more. W10063 PC070672 \$199,900

A Real Setate One...

734-591-9200

You will recognize fine crafts

manship 3 bed., 1.5 bath brick colonial, tastefully deco-

rated w/extra special touches

Large eat-in kitchen w/oak

cabinetry, family room w/gas log fireplace, remodeled bath, hardwood floors & much

A Real Satate Una.

734-591-9200

3 bed, 1.5 bath Bsmt, garage

\$118,000. Possible land con-tract. The Real Estate Co., 734-697-9169.

A stunning 3 bed. brick ranch

w/2 full baths, a completely remodeled kitchen w/beveled

counter tops, finished base-ment w/cozy family room & a 2.5 car garage L18347 PC070102 \$139,999

A Read Bateta Coa.

734-591-9200

BE THE SECOND OWNER.

Well maintained 3 bed, ranch

w/2.2 baths, part finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage

Clean move-in condition

Updated carpet, bath, copper plumbing & more. B204

A Road Estatu One...

w/fireplace & separate heat & air. Roof 3 yrs., furnace/air 13

yrs., part finished basement

A Read Extate One.

734-591-9200

Everything you are looking for! Full brick! 3 bed! Finished basement, 24x24 block

garage, newer windows, roof shingles, electrical, copper

vacy fenced yard. 120455 PC070192 \$133,711

734-591-9200

Here is a great opportunity to

call this newly constructed 3 bed., 1.5 bath, 1260 sq. ft., 2

car attached garage colonia

w/basement your new home

Act fast - this quality work

manship won't last long \$19335 PC070072 \$149,900

A Read Estate Dro...

734-591-9200

HONEY STOP THE CAR!!

Best location in South Redford, 3 bedroom brick ranch

central air, spacious kitche

with appliances: 13x11 Florida room. Finished basement

room. Finished basement immediate occupancy. Home

Century 21 Hartford North

Solid brick ranch! In area

block of Lawson Field - offers

tennis, basketball & play area.Nice floor plan w/finished

basement. L19158 \$139,900

& Real Estate Con.

734-591-9200

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT

THIS sharp oak kitcher w/ceramic floor, windows

copper plumbing, cement, storm doors, 3 ceiling fans, roof shingles. 3 bed., 2 bath, part finished basement, 2 car

A Iteal Estate One.

734-326-2000

Unique & roomy! Walk out basement is finished in dry-

wall. All updates are done

Home has open floor plan

Doorwall in lower level walks

out to patio & nice yard B14148 PC070412 \$149,900

A Rent Butero (100....

734-591-9200

Well maintained broad front

bungalow. 3 bed., finished

basement w/bar, new kitcher

countertop, new glass block

throughout, bay window, fenced yard. 1.5 car attached

garage. Large ple shaped tot & more! L19507 \$132,500

A Real Estate One...

734-591-9200

WE'RE

OPEN

24 HOURS

A DAY

www.hometownlife.com

1184 PC220452

neutral decor

newer carne

garage. \$129,900

w/tasteful

windows, throughout,

Warranty, \$143,000. 734-525-9600

freshly

painted, hardwood copper plumbing

& Real Estate Co.

all appliances. PC070362 \$169,900

glumbing

plumbing . \$100,000

3350

more! C9343 \$214,900

Redford

H11520 \$199.900

desirable area of Southfield.
Open & spacious floor plan.
Updated marble tile in foyer. Finished basement includes bar & 1/2 bath.
Must see! Immediate occupancy! \$179,000 (734) 451-5400 Updated Plymouth Township home! Walk to local elemenarv school or walk to Hines Park, either way this charming ranch has location all over it. Full basement, 2 car detached

CONTEMPORARY Immaculate 4 bed., 2.5 bath home in exquisite area. Master suite w/bath. area. Master suite whath, Hardwood floors in family room wfireplace. Spacious living room. Tons of updates Windows, siding, c.a. & much more. Circular driveway, \$259,900 Century 21 MJL Corporate Transferrae Sorgica. ránsferee Service. 248-851-6700

South Lyon

CHARMING SOUTH LYON HOME ON LARGE LOT. A charming home w/character on a large country lot in the city of South Lyon is available for immediate occupancy. 3 bed., 2 full baths, 2.5 car garage w/work room. Basement w/lireplace. 80CHE2 \$250,000 A Flori Betete Con...

3400

248-348-6430

SOUTH LYON BEAUTY! Mint 3 bed., 1.5 bath colonial, built 1997, white gourmet island kitchen, hardwood floors, master suite, great room w/gas fireplace, c.a., open floor plan, on cul-de-sac sprinklers & much more BWES2 \$222.500

A Rood Detate One. 248-348-6430

4 bedroom colonial in Troy. Birmingham schools. 2 1/2 baths. Hardwood (oak) floors, beautifully wooded backyard. \$334,990. Please call: 248-219-7542, 248-444-8790

4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, library, 3+ garage, finished basement, 17 Mile & Coolidge \$395,000. 248-649-3046

3424 Wayne

HICKORY HOLLOW COOPERATIVE Multi-family, non-profi housing cooperative located on 13.5 acres of open landscape. Near major freeways. Wayne-Westland School District

Current availabilities: bedroom ranch. Equities: \$3930-\$4100. For more info, contact 734-729-7262

GORGEOÚS ABSOLUTELY HOME IN BEAUTIFUL SUB. Aside from the lush landscape beautifully maintained exterior, this home is mint & ready for you to move right in! Large deck leads to submerged pool & more. S727 PC220522 \$245,000

A Real Estate Dos. 734-326-2000

AFFORDABLE Vicely updated brick rancl on 50x160 lot. New pergo type flooring in living room, hall and bedroom kitchen, updated windows, shingles and more, 2.5 garage. Asking \$133,000

Call The Anderson's Century 21 Dynamic (734) 728-7800 Direct

6900 N. Wayne, Westland BEAUTIFUL BRICK RANCH Updated brick ranch, Updated kitchen, custom cabinets & counters. counters. Awesome bath w/his/her sinks w/new ceramic tile. Hardwoods finished. Finished basement. F744 \$164,900

A Rosi Estato Oso 734-326-2000

Hurry to this well polished 3 bed. ranch. Full brick, wide open floor plan, many expenive upgrådes, impressive kitchen w/oak cabinetry ceramic flooring & granite counters, remodeled bath, fireplace in family room & much more! C36255 \$172,900 2 Neal Estata Doc.

734-591-9200

LIVONIA SCHOOLS Bed. brick ranch, beautiful hardwood floors, remod-eled bath, finished bsmt, large carport. \$147,900

With a huge kitchen, Florida room, attached 2 car \$95,900 **CENTURY 21 CASTELLI**

GREAT STARTER HOME

(734) 525-7900 Run, Don't Walk! 1, 2 have

to move. 3, 4 say no more. 5, 6 here it is. 7, 8 hurry before t's too late! Fantastic ranch w/living room, family room finished basement w/2 more bed. 2.5 car garage, deck. 23R8303 \$177,900 A Roel Estate Cas.

734-455-7000 Tastefully decorated, well maintained 3 bed. ranch.

Beautiful new birch cabinets new floor, appliances stay, patio, full basement, oversized car garage, tear off roof in 10/03, new furnace, c.a., windows. A great home! M304 PC070382 \$169,900 A Real Butate fina... 734-591-9200

Hurry on this great buy! 2 car garage, unfinished basement

Three bed. Westland ranchi

dining room, patio, c.a. & more! F35546 \$137,500 Real Sziets Cas... 734-591-9200

3445

WELCOME HOME bed home, Livonia schools many updates. \$169.900 **GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD** ready to move in. \$164,000. Century 21 Towne Pride

Westland

(734) 326-2600 www.century21townepride.com

Westland Home - Livonia schools! Spacious 3 bed., 1.5 bath tri-level.Walk to elemenc.a., Excellent starter or empty nester home. Clean & read for you! 23D8023 \$159,900

A Rood Betate Con... 734-455-7000

Ypsilanti

Depot Town Charmer! Well maintained & updated. Beautifully refinished hardwood floors throughout newly remodeled kitchen, bath & upstairs. A great home ready for you to just move in & enjoy! 23H709 \$169,900

A Real Dates Cos... 734-455-7000

SUPERIOR TWP LOTS OF PRIVACY. Large ranch w/nice open floor plan on 5 acres. 3 bed., 1 1/2 bath, fabulous new oak kitchen newer roof shingles, fireplace super family & game room, pole barn. R165 PC220152 \$259,900

A Real Setate Data... 734-326-2000

(3520)

Livingston County

FOR SALE or LEASE 2.2 acres with 2100 sq.ft Colonial, woods, covered deck, cathedral "wood" ceiling in family room, insulated and heated Pole Barn, 1/4 mile to pave-ment. Howell schools \$299,900 or lease amount of \$1500. MLS#23084705.

Call Laura Edwards 1-800-810-0499 1-810-227-5005 x209

A Real Catate One...

GIVE SOMETHING BIG...like this wonderful 5 bedroom, 3 bath builder's home on offers many quality features thru-out! Home features a huge great room with soaring ceilings, and the beautiful fireplace for those cool fall nights. Dream kitchen, private master suite, finished walkout lower level & 3 car garage! Fenton Schools, \$495,000. ENGLAND REAL ESTATE 88-211-9560, 810-632-7427

Wayne County

BRING OFFERS! This 3 bed, ranch has been updated including window and furnace, Bsmt. CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300 44958 Ford Rd. - Canton

Terrific Opportunity! Updated roof, siding, windows, fur-nace, c.a., & front porch. 3 bed. brick ranch. Part finished basement w/dry Hardwood floors, w/dry w/electricity. \$119,900

å Heel Estate Des. 734-455-7000

ROMULUS LARGE, BEAUTIFUL HANCH Come see this huge ranch w/4 bed, home features 2 bay win dows, eat-in kitchen, fuil par finished basement landscaped yard, B320 \$149,900

> Real Estate Una. 734-326-2000

Lakefront & Waterfront

BRENDEL LAKE Tempting 4 bedroom bath ranch on deep lot with sandy beach and panorami riews. Family room, 2 fire places, walkout basemen Lots of updates. Huror Valley Schools. \$319,900. (248) 887-6900 FIRST AMERICAN

LAKEFRONT PROPERTIES 5 acres on all sports Walnut Lake. 1995 David Lubin design walk-out, amazing \$4,999,999 Muhaimeen (248) 760-1208

(3700) New Home Builders

(248) 474-6500

area. Brand new spacious 1,680 sq.ft. 2 bed, 2 bath, end

unit with semi private eleva-tor. Hardwood floors in living

room, dining room, & spa-cious island kitchen. Master

bath with separate tub &

shower, abundant storage & closets. Laundry on main

level. 2 car garage with additional parking in front & rear.
Entry level office, courtyard views. Available March 1. \$330,000. Call now!

(248) 645-1510. No Agents.

BLOOMFIELD

Overlooking Wabeek Golf Course at #17, spacious 3200+ sq.ft., 3 bed, 3.5 bath townhouse w/fin-ished walk-out lower

level. Double door entry

w/2-story marble foyer. Living room w/marble

fireplace, formal dining room & library w/wet-bar, hardwood floor &

vaulted ceiling. Huge upgraded kitchen w/ap-

pliances. 2 car garage. \$479,900. (PI191)

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Pebble Creek upper unit ranch condo w/floor to

ceilina windows, 2 story

foyer w/circular staircase

& balcony doors off huge

great room w/fireplace. Over 2160 sq.ft. w/2

beds & 2 full baths. Kit-

chen w/breakfast room &

pantry. Laundry room. Part finished bsmt. One

car attached garage. \$219,900. (PE715)

Century 21 Today

(248) 647-8888

CANTON Affordable Condo! Great con-

dition! Great location! 3 bed., 1.5 bath Townhome in Canton

w/a basement. Newer carpet-ing, hot water heater, furnace

A Real Estate Dos...

734-455-7000

CANTON
BEAUTIFUL BRICK CONDO
W/1ST FLOOR MASTER.
Move right into this spacious,

neutral 3 bed., 2.5 bath condo

w/2 story great room w/come

fireplace, loft w/full bath, crown moldings, skylights, 1st floor laundry & 2 car attached

garage! 03SHE2 \$224,900

A Road Secrete One....

248-348-6430

CANTON

LUXURY GOLF COURSE VIEW

CONDO, 2 bed., 2 1/2 bath

has professionally finished

Sport Bar basement w/sepa

rate office or bedroom w/1/2

bath, 2 car attached garage

A Real Estate Cos.

734-326-2000

Canton OUTSTANDING END UNIT

Super 2 bed townhouse w/recently remodeled oak

kitchen, newer windows, finished bsmt w/family room

& computer area. Attached

Real Catalo Bas...

ELEGANT & SPACIOUS

condo will sure catch your eyel 3 bed., 2 bath completely remodeled

w/new Pergo floors, new carpet, bath, kitchen &

much more. Laundry room in unit. Close to everything

l perfect 10! \$110.000

Century 21 MJL Corporate Transferee Service.

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& computer area. Attac garage! \$139,500. GEORGIA MONROE (248) 568-9440 (248) 348-6430 x209

\$246,500

association fee. P165

\$144,900

Neutral decor. 23F1937

tury21today.com

Condos For Sale

Birmingham/Troy

3720

FARMINGTON HILLS Land Home Specialists CHARMING RANCH CONDO. Lovely condo w/2 bed. & 2 full baths. Eat in kitchen. Main floor laundry. Well located Land, construction, home all rolled into 1 easy loan. Over 100 floor plans to choose from. We have land available. w/private backyard & deck. Includes appliances. Very sharp & neutral. Close to ittle Valley

downtown Fr 56LAR2 \$250,000

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FARMINGTON: BUY/RENT 2 bedroom, 2 bath, all new eat in kitchen, covered balcony, Just unpack & enjoy upscale living in the Birmingham/Troy area. Brand new spacious 1260 sq. ft., carport, pool, clubhouse, \$230 maintenance includes utilities, \$115,000 Call evenings: 734-464-4194

LIVONIA GREAT LOWER LEVEL CONDO IN LAUREL PARK. 2 bed., 2 baths w/beautiful screened porch overlooking commons area. Close to everything you need. Assoc. dues include heat & water. Immediate occupancy. 75UNI2 \$129,900

A Real Estate Cos... 248-348-6430

NORTHVILLE NORTHVILLE CONDO - ONE YEAR NEW! Uniquely beautiful! Cozy, warm & inviting. Bright friendly kitchen, large master bed. w/balcony. Priced below state taxable value. (Lease available). \$187,000 64riv8 \$187,000

A Real Extels Ons.

248-349-6200 Beautiful Condol Enter this door to the best deal around. Entirely updated interior. Attached garage w/new opener. Full basement, new kitchen Including appliances, washer/dryer, ceiling lights & morel 23022437 \$169,900

& Real Entate Bas... 734-455-7000

NOVI CONDO WITH A VIEW! Contempoary ranch condo by the water's edge. 2 bed., 3 bath, finished 2 car garage Close to everything - what more do you need? Also comes w/nool, cabana & tennis courts. 70EDG2 \$194,900 A Read Butate Una...

248-348-6430

NOVI

Country Place Condo! 1650 sq. ft., 3 bed., 2.5 bath end unit on prime location w/a great view. Complex features pool, tennis & clubhouse. 04PEL2 \$174,900 A Real Estate Des.

248-348-6430 PLYMOUTH TWP. - End unit backs to wooded area. 3 bed-rooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2730 sq.ft. + 1900 sq.ft. unfinished bsmt. Attached 2 car garage. 5 yrs.

old. Too many upgrades to list! \$359,000. 734-459-4819 PLYMOUTH TWP. CONDO CHRISTMAS DISCOUNT \$289,000

walk-out, closets galore, gas fireplace in living room. Open Sat & Sun 1-5. 48053 Colony Farm Circle, Call 734-455 9088 or 248-380-6690 SOUTH LYON - 1 br., remod-

. c/a. apoliances. Avai

halla

now. \$88,500. (248) 388-4486 WESTLAND Absolute luxury! Fab-ulous 1999 built, 1700 so.ft., 3 bed, 3.5 bath w/upgrades gacondo lore! Living room w/ fireplace, dining room & w/hardwood kitchen floors. Two master stes. (one on the 1st floor bas bath w/jetted tub). Fin

ished lower level w/family

room, library & 2nd kitchen. Deck. 2 car attached garage. Pond views, \$244,900. (PE631) Century 21 Today

w.century21today.com Westland NO NEED TO RENT! Move-in condition! Affordable 1 bed unit, freshly painted, new carpet, kitchen floor, dishwasher & blinds! \$75,000. GAIL TURNER (248) 873-0087 (248) 348-6430 x265

(734) 462-9800

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F7

Condos For Sale

WESTLAND S/WARREN & WEST OFF WAYNE RD! Luxury 1300 sq. ft., 2 bed., 2.5 bath condo w/finished basement & 2-car garage. 54QUA2 \$174,900

A Real Batelo Bno...

248-348-6430 WESTLAND WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN brick condo, 2 bed., basement, nice yard. Updated include newer furnace, c.a. room & more. Stove & refrigerator included. S103 \$74,900 A Road Estate Das...

734-326-2000

CANTON - Sell the lawn mower! Easy living describes this 2 bed., 2.5 bath Townhome in Canton. room w/gas fireplace, kitchen w/appliances. Formal dining room, full basement. 2 car garage, nice deck. Backs to pond. 2301926 \$208,500

3730

A Read Betate Con... 734-455-7000-

Manufactured Homes (8740)

\$0 DOWN- Save up to \$30,000 on a newer bank repo. Must pay sales tax. Discount Homes 866-251-1670

Gorgeous! 3 bedroom, 2 bath, shed, \$37,777. A must see!



IN NOVI BRAND NEW MODEL Over 1400 sq. ft., all deluxe appl

doorwall, skylines and more. Premium site. Only \$59,800 OVER 1800 SQ. FT. 3BR, 2BA, large family room, separate laundry room, beautifu

ances, fireplace, walk in closet,

kitchen, all appliances, CA, large covered deck and more. Premium site. Only \$58,900

2 BR - 2 BA All appliances, CA, covered

porch, large rooms, imme-diate occupancy. \$14,900 Others priced from \$11,900 to \$59,800 THE

HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES Call Joanne or Sue Novi Schools

HIGHLAND HILLS ESTATES on Seeley Rd. N. of Grand River

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Large Family

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1369 sq. ft. 3 Bedrooms
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 Skylights & More \$348/month

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Grand River, I-95 exit 153 Across from Kensington Metropark (248) 437-2039

Stratford Villa Huron Valley Schools



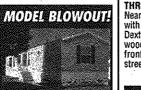








Manufactured Homes 6740



PRICED BELOW INVOICE **New Homes** \$19,900! 929 sq. ft.

 3 Bedrooms
 2 Baths GE Appliances

 Skylights & More \$199/month

\$2,114/down salest medels, based on 10% down, 9,75% API

In Novi **HOVI MEADOWS** South Lyon Schools Ropier Rd. 1 mile west of Wixon

Rd., and 1 mile 5. of Grand River (248) 344-1988 In South Ivon/Milford

KENSINGTON PLACE South Lyon Schools Grand River 1-96, exit 153 acros (248) 437-2039



Aepo bedroom, 2 bath, shed. fireplace. Will sacrifice.



PRICED BELOW INVOICE!

New Homes \$19,900

929 sq. ft.

 3 Bedrooms · • 2 Baths GE Appliances Skylights& More

\$199/month \$2,114/down n seket madels, based on 10% dram; 9,75% APR, 180 payrasain, batarasi maa sabijasi ta changa.

In Cantor SHERWOOD VILLAGE Nayne-Westland Schools

on the southeast corner of Michigan Ave. & Haggerty Rd. (734) 397-7774



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PLYMOUTH 2 bed, appliances washer & dryer, air, \$3900. Avail now. 248-684-5549

(3750)

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Lots & Acreage Vacant (882)

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APARTMENTS Limited Time Special 2 Bedroom Units FROM \$700

Vertical blinds,

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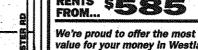
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6 MILE

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On Merriman Between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren Road *Limited Time on Select Units 📵

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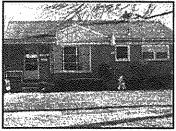
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CANTON - Absolutely stunning home. Large 5 bedroom, 4 full & 2.5 bath colonial on an oversized lot. Offers professionally finished lower level w/den, rec room, wet bar & bath. 2nd floor laundry, hardwood floors, 3 car attached garage + stamped concrete patio, walkway & porch. Much more. \$489,900 (64LIB) 734-455-5600



WESTLAND - Great house, Livonia schools. Spacious family room w/fireplace. sunny eat-in kitchen, living room w/dining area. Deck. C/A. lots of fresh paint, hardwood floors all in this 3 bedroom, brick ranch. Friendly quiet neighborhood. Good home value! \$164,900 (54FRU) 734-455-





DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Inviting w/custom cabs, Corian countertops, farmhouse sink w/Pergo floors. All appls stay, high efficient furnace & C/A, copper plumbing. Newer entry & screen doors, built-in BBO, 1.5 baths, 3 bedrooms, fin basement& 2.5 car garage. Home Protection Plan. \$174,900 (40ROS) 734-455-5600

basement & all appliances. Home



WESTLAND - Wonderful court setting. Just move in & enjoy! Beautiful hardwood floors, updated kitchen woak cabs, newer windows, roof, furnace, C/A, cement. Partially finished basement w/full bath, 2 car garage. Fenced yard. This home is very clean & well cared fort \$165,500 (45BAL) 734-455-5600



REDFORD - Move right in. Updated 3 bedroom bungalow w/newer roof, furnace, C/A, windows, kitchen floor, sink, disposal, countertop & newer appliances. Partially finished basement, private yard w/patio & garage. Great location. \$133,899 (23ELM)



room, 1 bath ranch on approx .5 acre w/2.5 car garage. Many major updates: newer carpet t/o over hardwood floors, C/A, Florida room, ceramic tile in bath, newer windows & huge yard. Near x-ways & walk to elem schls. Home Warranty. \$139,900 (50HAG) 734-455-5600



REDFORD - Ready to move in! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch w/many of the high ticket items done. Updates include: windows, furnace, roof & newer carpet. All appliances & home warranty included. \$129,900 (91LEN) 734-455-5600



NOVI - Wonderful ranch home. Large home on double lot w/Walled Lake privileges. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths & whirlpool tub. Lots of fresh paint and carpet. Great access to freeways & 12 Oaks Mall. 1 car garage. \$230,000 (30PAR) 248-349-5600



COMMERCE - What a great house. Absolutely beautiful. Great sub. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, sun room and near Huron Valley Hospital. Two-story living room. Well designed kitchen opens to FR. Fireplace in FR. Open form DR. Large yard. \$444,900 (51BRI) 248-349-

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Town & Country

Michigan's #1



CANTON - All the work is done. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath colonial. From the furnace to the windows to the newer cherry kitchen w/Corian countertops and marble flooring. Some 6 panel doors. Updated half bath and room for storage. All this backing to acres of parks commons for your back-yard. \$229,900 (89BRO) 248-349-5600



DEARBORN - Ready to move. Custom built 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath tri-level in excellent condition. New cabinets, carpet & roof - 3 years & flooring - 4 years. Newer C/A & furnace. Neutral, clean & loads of new additions. \$144,900 (30BUR) 248-349-

WEST BLOOMFIELD - Lake living at its

quiet bay location on Walnut Lake.



LIVONIA - Gorgeous ranch, wow views

Great approx 1/2 acre lot w/beautiful

views. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Kitchen

w/white bay cabs, 2 car attached garage.

Maple floors, loop shag carpet. Vaulted

ceiling. Master w/WIC, sprinklers. Natural

fireplace. Footings for 4 seasons room. \$274,900 (84SUN) 248-349-5600

ROSEVILLE - Roseville Ranch. Ready to move in 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch w/updates galore, Newer cabs & tile in kitchen. Updated bathroom. All newer windows, furnace, C/A, roof, driveway, carpet, plumbing & electrical kitchen appls stay. 2 plus car garage w/220 & work area. \$124,900 (24BAY) 248-349-5600



FARMINGTON HILLS - Ready for you: 2 best. 3 bedroom, 3 bath 2-story home in a bedroom, 2 bath garden level condo w/newer hot water heater, kitchen & DR Spacious master suite w/his & her's baths flooring. Lots of storage and in-unit laun-& WIC. Great room w/Travertine marble dry. all appliances including washer & fireplace and great view of lake. White dryer. Freshly painted & 6 panel doors. Carport located just outside your door. \$110,000 (70TWE) 248-349-5600



NORTHVILLE - Downtown Northville. Classic arts and crafts bungalow. Vintage built-ins & woodwork. Hardwood floors, inviting screened porch. Private library/study. Potential to grow gracefully. \$305,000 (21BAS) 248-349-5600



SOUTH LYON - Too many fine qualities Spectacular best describes this stately 4 bedroom, 3.2 bath custom colonial deep in golf community. Certainly nothing spared, \$100,000 in upgrades & over \$40,000 in landscaping including pavers and custom deck. \$849,000 (57SAT) 248-349-5600



PLYMOUTH - A very rare find. Highly desired Beacon Hollow presents this rear 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse w/formal dining room, fireplace in living room, doorwall to deck, 2 car attached garage, full Warranty, \$249,900 (13PIN) 734-455-5600



w/workshop. Flower gardens & large covered patio. Remodeled baths, master w/whirlpool tub. Newer steel doors, fresh paint & more. See through fireplace in living room & family room. Large shed w/loft. \$184,900 (27OLD) 734-455-5600



CANTON - What a beauty! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath colonial w/large cozy family room w/fireplace, doorwall to deck & pool, partially finished basement, 2 car attached garage. \$211,900 (45MOR) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH 705 South Main St.

734-455-5600

WYANDOTTE - Solid brick bungalow. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2.5 car garage w/opener. Updates include: windows, furnace, C/A, electricity & plumbing. Freshly painted & 1 year home warranty. \$149,900 (42DEE) 734-455-5600



NORTHVILLE

175 CadyCentre

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NOVI - You want it, we've got it. All the most wanted features: open floor plan, 1st floor master, fireplace, finished lower level. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, first floor laundry, Large deck and wooded lot & sidewalks. Northville schls. Fresh paint. \$489,900 (68MYS) 248-349-5600



ROMULUS - Brand new model home. Golf course community. 2-story w/quality upgrades. Side car garage, sprinklers w/full landscaping, ceramic, premium kitchen, C/A, designer wallpaper. Other homes & sites available. \$207,900 (33GAT) 248-349-5600



NORTHVILLE - Historic Northville Duolex Can't afford Northville? Yes you can! Rare historic duplex. Wooded lot w/brook. Beautiful. Updates throughout. Live in main flat, rent upper flat & bonus studio. Super curb appeal. This is an awesome investment opportunity. \$296,000 (10RAN) 248-349-5600



CANTON - Like New Canton Colonial.

1997 built 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, open floor

plan, neutral, large eat-in kitchen, family

room w/gas fireplace, spacious master

bedroom w/WIC & master bath, extra wide

driveway, 1st floor laundry, original owner,

all appliances stay, \$249,900 (51WES)

734-455-5600

INKSTER - Roomy Bungalow. Very nice. brick home w/family room as a bonus. Truly a turn-key home. Updates includes: copper plumbing, roof, garage door & opener, carpet in kitchen, family room & basement. Also 2 car garage. \$124,900 (82MON) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN - Plenty of potential. Home

has plenty of sweat equity, already has updated windows & vinyl siding. Home

being sold "AS IS". \$109,900 (54COL)

734-455-5600

DETROIT - A great starter. 2 bedroom ranch w/2 car garage & full basement, some kitchen appliances. Close to schools, shopping & churches. \$42,000 (47SCO) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH - Custom contemporary home. 3 story atrium foyer, spiral dak staircase, great room w/fireplace opens to sun room, kitchen w/newer granite counters, formal dining room w/hardwood floor, library or music room, master suite w/fireplace, jetted tub, FLL walk-out to inground pool. \$675,000 (77WES) 734-455-5600



REDFORD - Wonderful 3 bedroom bungalow with numerous updates. Full basement, 1.5 car garage - room for expansion. Newer windows, roof, siding. Great community involvement. \$109,900 (85SUM)



SOUTH LYON - 55+ Ranch Condo. Enjoy the clubhouse & beach in this quiet community. 2 bedroom, 1 ceramic bath, neutral, covered porch, single car garage, large brick patio with immediate occupancy. Best buy. \$110,000 (24CAM) 248-349-



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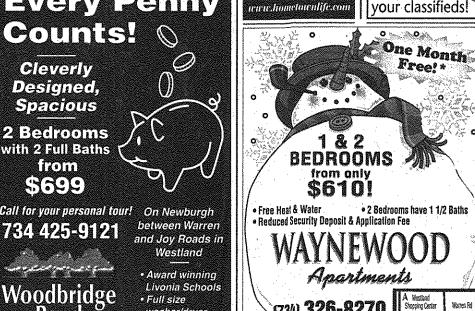




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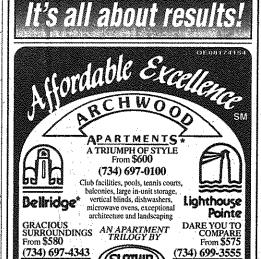
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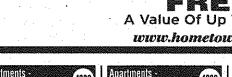
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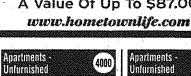
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Livonia- 9027 Melvin Ranch w/Livonia Schools 3 bed, 1 bath w/full bsmt New kitchen & bath, Fresh neutral carpet & paint thru-Smoke/pet Crossroads: Joy/Merriman Security/Ref. \$1050/mo. **ROYAL OAK** MARK or DEBRA DeMOSS

MADISON HGTS. - 2 Bed. Ranch, wood floors, washer/ dryer, patio. \$750/mo. dryer, patio. ShareNet (248)642-1620

734-416-8732

Coldwell Banker Preferred

Homes For Rent

OAK PARK Cute 2 bedroom ranch. Immediate occupancy Option to buy available, \$500 per month. 248-788-1823 PLYMOUTH - Brick, all appli-

ances, bsmt, central air. \$795/mo. Small charge. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT PLYMOUTH 2 bed townhouse;

nice place, good area, freshly decorated. (734) 658-3066 PLYMOUTH 3 Bed, 1 bath, fin-ished basement, fenced yard. \$1125/mo. Option to pur-chase on LC. 248-515-5292 PLYMOUTH TWP. 3 Bed,1.5 bath, finished bsmt., family room w/fireplace. Available month to month, \$1500/mo.

> PLYMOUTH-La 1 bed upper, garage, prime as area. \$775. (734) 591-6530/455-7653

734-658-0433

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YOU CAN STILL BUY A ANY AREAL Short term employment OK. Bankruptcy OK. Call Randy Lesson, METRO FINANCE

248-709-2244 REDFORD (S) 2 homes, 3 bedroom, 1-1.5 bath, air, garages, finished bsmt. garages, finished psmt. \$1065-\$1075. 734-462-4057

REDFORD - North, 3 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow, \$795/ mo. L security. Pets ok 810-229-7292 BEDEARD - 2 had ranch

bsmt, appliances, fenced, buy option. \$750/mo. Small charge IENTAL PROS 248-356-REÑT REDFORD - 3 bed brick bungalow, bsmt, dining, garage, \$800/mo. Small charge RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT REDFORD TWP - 25256 Keeler, 5 bed, 2 bath, 4 bed

\$1000/mo. (313) 535-1108 ROYAL OAK - 3 Bed. Ranch. C/A, wood floors, washer/ dryer, bsmt. \$950/mo. ShareNet (248)642-1620

Royal Oak - 3 bedrooms remodeled bungalow. Finished basement w/bedroom & full bath, All appliances. Central air, Awesome master w/skylights! 2.5 garage, \$1,300 or option to buy! (248) 815-3739

ROYAL: OAK - 3709 Woodland, 2 bed, 2 car, appliances, immaculate, great house & neighborhood, no pets. \$800/mo. 248-360-2095

NO BANKS REQUIRED! 3 bedroom remodeled bunga-Finished v/bedroom & full bath. A annliances. Central Awesome master w/skylights! 2.5 car garage. \$185,000 CALL (248) 815-3739

Homes For Rent

4050

SOUTHFIELD - Small 2 bedroom, clean, all appliances, garage. Pets OK. \$675 + utilitles & security. 248-737-1795 SOUTHFIELD - 3 bed, bsmt, family room, 2 car garage, pets neg. \$800/mo. Small charge RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT

newly remodeled, garage, buy RENTAL PROS 248-356-RENT SOUTHFIELD- 25373 Orchard Grove. 3 bedroom brick ranch, no basement. 2 car garage. Nice area. \$1095/mo

SOUTHFIELD - 4 hed ranch

W. BLOOMFIELD Beautiful fully furnished, 2 bedroom on the lake, through June, \$900, 248-661-5651 260-615-1532

WAYNE 3 bedroom, 1 bath, basement, 2 car garage, 1 yr lease. \$900/mo. 734-459-6361, 734-709-7222

WAYNE: 2 bed, 1 1/2 bath, all appliances + washer/dryer, air large yard, newly redecorated

WESTLAND 2 bed Ranch w/basement & C/A, appliances. \$750/mo. Call Agent, Linda Adkins, 734-504-7766

WESTLAND - Ranch, bsmt, air, appliances, buy option. \$750/mo. Small charge. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT

WESTLAND - Ranch, near school, fenced for pets. \$700/mo. Small charge. RENTAL PROS 734-513-RENT WESTLAND -. Excellent area,

3 bed, 1.5 bath, bsmt, C/A just decorated, appliances, no pets. \$925. (734) 591-9163 WESTLAND 3 bedroom beautiful ranch, central air, newly updated, on a dead end road next to a primary school. No \$950/mo + nets or smoking. security. 734-737-9344.

WESTLAND Norwayne. 3 bedroom duplex, 1.5 baths, new WESTLAND: Clean 3 bed, 2 bath, appliances, bsmt. garage and more! \$1,025/mo

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Technical Support

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Direct Care: Positions avail-

able working with people in their homes; competitive pay

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training, great people, mean-ingful work. 734-728- 4201

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Temporary, part-time for auto paint store. Will train. Apply in

Painters Supply & Equip, Co. 6925 Middlebelt Rd.

Garden City or fax resume to: 734-425-0536

DRIVER/REPO, with or with-

out own tow truck. Clean driv-ing record required. Good vol-ume. Call: 419-843-8740

DRIVERS

Independent contractors needed, 1994 or newer vans

or larger vehicles. Various

734-354-6945 ext 222

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Join our Team

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Avis Rent A Car has several opportunities for dependable

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You will need a valid driver's

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quire the flexibility to work

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Gravel train and low boy. Must

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resume to 248-374-0652.

2 bed./2 bath condo, fur-nished ,1600 sq. ft., Gulf & Bay view, avail. Dec., mum 3 mo. \$6500/mo. Dec., mini-

All Ads Run Online

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All Ages, Tastes, Occupations, Backgrounds & Lifestyles. 'Our 20th Year'

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House to share with non-smoking female. \$485 per month. Call 248-953-0338 MALE SEEKING male or female to share new 2 bedroom split incl utilities. (734) 525-0604

REDFORD (South)- Will share home. Kids/pets negotiable. Rent negotiable. Leave mes-734-564-2681

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(4140)

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Great winter storage for car or boat! \$85 per month. Call

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Observer & Eccentric

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Health & Fitness ...Help Wanted-Professional 5120.....Help Wanted-Sales 5200 Help Wanted-Part-Time

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5340 Female/Male

> 5370 . Childcare/Babysitting Services 5380 ..Childcare Needed

Summer Camos 5500. 5600 . Education/Instruction Business & Professional 5620.

5240 Help Wanted-DomesticHelp Wanted-Couples

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interest in local reporting? Would you

community weekly newspaper?

The Northville Record is seeing an enthusiastic reporter. The position requires gathering news then writing articles and columns to keep our readers informed about local events and issues.

organized and able to work well independently, Ideally he or she will have a related degree including journalism coursework and at least one year of professional experience as a reporter.

This is a full time position offering a complete benefits package. Occasional evenings and weekends may be required to cover special events. If you're interested in this position, please mail or drop off resume with salary expectations and writing samples to:

248-349-1050.





Jobs Wanted-Childram Services Licensed

..Elderly Care & AssistanceNursing Care & Homes 5420...

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Reporter Do you have good writing skills and an enjoy a highly visible position with a

The person we hire must be well

Photography skills and knowledge of the community a plus.

Editor The Northville Record 104 W. Main St. Northville, MI 48167 You may also fax your information to





Help Wanter General 6000

ADMINSTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FT/PT. Growing W. Bloomfield Financial Services co. Email: R98778@hotmail.com (248) 661-8190 Announcement: NOW HIR-ING For 2003/04 Postal Jobs \$15.20-\$39.00/hr. Full Federal benefits. Paid training. No experience required. Green Card OK.

1-866-895-3696 ext. 2400 APARTMENT MANAGER COUPLE NEEDED Position includes competitive salary, housing and BCBS Retirees welcome. Please fax

brief resume or qualifications to: 248-647-3570. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT/ PUNCH OUT MECHANIC LABORER Long term position with residential building firm. Western Tri-County area. Capable of working w/tools for warranty

6085, Plymouth, MI 48170. (AM) 248-474-4780 ASSISTANT TEAM COACH FOR TOPS & Level 5-7. Novi area. Please cali Mel @ 248-380-5330

service & punch out of new homes. Own truck & tools preferred. Resume to: P.O.

Earn extra \$\$ advertise with 0 & E 1-800-579-SELL





M Independent Contractors Needed

Twice a week Thursdays and Saturdays

Newspapers needs people to deliver to stores and racks in our area. Must have truck or van, valid driver's license and insurance.

Help Wanted General

Auto - Immediate opening for full time Service Department Cashler George Matick Chevrolet, 14001 Telegraph Rd., Redford. Fax (313) 538-4995 Lisa/Norm.

(313 531-7100 x143 AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN Immediate opening with fastest growing body shop in SE Michigan. Body shop servse michigan, aboy strop services five affiliated dealerships & offers outstanding pay plan/benefits package. All new downdraft paint booths, frame rack & shop equipment Contact Ron Richards to arrange an interview. Equal

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AUTOMOTIVE Parts Receiving Operations Full time, Mon.- Fri. Medical benefits & profit sharing. Experience required. resume: 734-591-7271; resume: 734-591-7271; for applications: 12784 Currie Ct., Livonia, Ml. 734-591-1956



The Observer & Eccentric

Please Call Carol 734-805-3620 for more information

Help Wanted General

WJobs and Lareers

BORING MILL OPERATOR Night Shift-Devlieg and Cincinnati, Gilbert Manual Machines. Must have own tools - do own set ups - possess good blue

print reading skills. Send Resume to: 31800 W. Eight Mile Rd. Farmington, MI 48336 E-Mail Barry@Forgeprecision.com expected wages, late openings-With

overtime BUILDING ATTENDANT

Canton Township is accepting applications for part-time Building Attendant. Performs direct, front-line supervisor duties acting as customer service representative and staff support assistant at the Summit on Park Community Center. Qualified applicants must be a H. S. graduate or equivalent. College students encouraged to approximate supervisory

Ability experience preferred. Ability to possess basic first aid and CPR certifications within 60 days of hire. \$8.50 per hr. Applications available at the Applications available at the Township Administration Building, Human Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. An application form is also available on the Canton Township website at Township website www.canton-mi.org. All applicants must complete a Canton Township application form in its entirety and the form must be received by Canton Township of Human Resources Division prior to 4pm, December 26, 2003. The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or

Equal Opportunity Employer. **CABINET SHOP** seeks experienced CNC opera-tor with architectural wood-work knowledge. Benefits. or call 248-347-4777

the provision of services. An

Help Wanted General

CAMPAIGN MANAGER The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Michigan Chapter, located in Madison Heights seeks a campaign manager for its School & Youth

The Campaign Manager is responsible for management implementation of multiple campaigns within this department. The qualified candidate will develop growth and positioning strategies, create annual business plans outsitess plans and supporting budgets, develop and monitor timelines, create sales and marketing and supporting

materials, oversee sales team of two. One to three years of fundraising, project management in a sales environment, or telesales experience into primary and secondary schools preferred. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required, as well as ability to manage multiple priorities effectively. Demonstrated knowledge of Microsoft Office suite

necessary. Bachelor's degree preferred. For consideration, please forward resume with cover

letter and salary history to:

Executive Director

The Laukemia &

Lymphoma Society, Michigan Chagter Fax: 248-582-2925 Email slaughteri@ils.org CARPENTER Small company seeks quali-fied, responsible carpenter for commercial build outs. Metal

stud, drywall, grid ceilings, etc. Excellent year round, long

term opportunity for ambitious individual, Benefits. 248-344-9900 CARPENTER/CABINET MAKER W/exp. for Bloomfield Hills custom homes. BC/BS. custom homes. BC/BS Lerman Corp. (248) 258-9960



We have just the job for you, even if you only can work one or two shifts per week.

Part-time light industrial work, collating newspaper advertising insertions. Saturday afternoon and evening shifts needed. 8am-4pm or Midnight-8am. \$8.05/hour. Please apply in person at our

Distribution Center, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 35450 Industrial Drive, Livonia, MI 48150. Monday-Friday • 8:30 am -5:00 pm.

Help Wanted General

CARPENTER: Excellent attitude, can-do mentality, carpentry & organization skills a must. Competitive pay. Career Entry level position. Must have computer and MS Office path. Drug test required. Call Tom at 313-779-0824 software exp. Dental back-

CARPENTERS FRAMERS Year round work, 40/hrs+. Good pay. (734) 425-4164 Good pay. CARPET APPRENTICE needed for flooring company Some experience preferred. Must have excellent attitude with reliable transportation & good driving record. Good wages, opportunity for med-

Call Joe: 313-278-0211 CHILDCARE WORKERS Needed for infants & toddlers Full & part time available. Southfield area, 248-355-3276 Cleaning Crews Wanted

of 2-4 people for afternoon & night shifts. (734) 776-3733

CNC MILL OPERATOR Fadal exp. necessary. Own set-ups & tools. 2 yrs. minimum set-up exp. 734-729-9590 COMPANY EXPANDING in your area \$1380 Weekly at home. Full time /part time. No exp. necessary. \$50 cash hir-ing bonus!! Guaranteed in writing!! Call now

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COUNTER POSITION

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Farmington area. Part time. No exp. necessary. For interview call 248-473-0100 Customer Sales/Service

SEMESTER **BREAK WORK** \$17.25 base/appt. Now filling many openings for holiday help. 1-5 week work assignments. Gain \$, fun, experience. All majors welcome.

Conditions exist, must be 18 Apply now, work begins soon!

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248-601-3212

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outgoing individuals to sell and service our customers. PERMANENT FULL TIME AND PART TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE.

is looking for friendly,

We offer \$9 hr. to start. Medical, Dental, 401k, and beautiful merchandise at an employee discount. Prior sales experience helpful. Friendly smile required!

Opportunity for advancement.

Orchard Mall

🐎 248-737-8080 Ask for Crista 🧀

A Value Of Up To \$87.00 www.hometownlife.com

Help Wanted General (500)

DRIVERS-CLASS B \$40,0000+ Local roof-top delivery of shingles. 80% roof loading, 20% driving. Hard work, this is not for everyone--500-600 lifts @ Construction/roofing

year round work!

APPLY AT: Wimsatt 36340 Van Born Rd.

Wayne, MI ELECTRICIAN Licensed & motivated, Commercial & some industrial experience a MUST. Benefits and 401K match. Farmington Hills location.

248-615-4453. **EXECUTIVE**

Call 248-615-4448 or

fax resume to:

DIRECTOR The Farmington Area Founders reviewing resumes thru January 31, 2004. The Executive Director is responsible for management of all aspects of the Farmington/Farmington Hill's premier summer community event. Base compensation is \$25K plus a

generous incentive structure.

Please submit resumes to:

Farmington Area Founders

Festival, Attention: Search

Committee, P.O. Box 291.

Farmington Hills, MI 48332-With the holidays just around the



corner...

Observer & Eccentric Hôme & Service Guide for the help vou need!



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Attention Classified Advertisers .:

Check out These ** Early Holiday o o Deadlines

Your advertising is important to us and we don't want to leave anyone's ads out of the paper.



Thursday, December 25th Publication **Real Estate Section**

3 pm-Friday, Dec. 19th

Automotive Display Noon-Monday, Dec. 22nd

Sunday, December 28th Publication **Real Estate Section Automotive Display** 5 pm-Tuesday, Dec. 23rd

Noon-Wednesday, Dec. 24th | Thursday, January 1st Publication **Real Estate Section**

Automotive Display 3 pm-Friday, Dec. 26th Noon-Monday, Dec. 29th

Sunday, January 4th Publication **Real Estate Section**

Automotive Display 5 pm-Tuesday, Dec.30th Noon-Wednesday, Dec. 31st 3 pm-Friday, Jan. 2nd

Help Wanted Display Noon-Friday, Dec. 26th

Help Wanted Display

Liners Class 3000-8900 5:30 pm-Friday, Dec. 26th

3 pm-Monday, Dec. 22nd 6 pm-Monday, Dec. 22nd

Liners Class 3000-8900

Help Wanted Display 3 pm-Monday, Dec. 29th |

Liners Class 3000-8900 6 pm-Monday, Dec. 29th

Liners Class 3000-8900

Please call early to place your ads and avoid the last minute holiday rush.

1-800-579-SELL (7355) or Fax Your Ad (734) 953-2232

Help Wanted General

FIREFIGHTER Canton Township is accepting applications for the position of Firefighter. Salary: \$36,316 -\$60,191 per yr. High school graduation or equivalent. Associate Degree in Fire Science preferred. Necessary qualifications include cert ification from the State of Michigan Firefighters Training Council as a Firefighter II current valid Paramedic certification from the State of Michigan, and successful completion of the Conference of Western Wayne (CWW) written and physical agility testing. Certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) prior to hire. Must possess a current, valid Michigan Drivers License with a driving history that does not create liability concerns; which includes, but is not limited to, convictions for

reckless driving, careless driving, suspended license, or convictions involving drinking and impaired driving.

Applications must be picked up at the Canton Township Human Resources Division Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188 or send a self-addressed stamped business size envelope to above address to request application (please specify Firefighter application). An application form is also available on the Canton

Township website at www.canton-mi.org www.canton-mr.org
Job description will be posted
at the Twp Administration
Building, A Canton Township
application form must be
completed in its entirety and on file in the Human Resources Division prior 4nm., December 22, 2003. Candidates must provide copies of all certifications with completed Canton Township applications form, No resumes will be accepted without Canton Township application form, Faxed or Emailed applications will not be accepted. The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability employment or provision of services. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

FRONT DESK CLERK All shifts. Full time, part time Apply in person. Holiday inn Express Hotel 3950 S. Lotz Road, Canton.

No phone calls. GET PAID \$25/TO SHOP Pose as customers in local stores, restaurants & theaters.

Search4Shoppers.com/job GOVERNMENT JOBS Earn \$12-\$48.00 an hour. Full benefits, paid training on Homeland Security, Law enforcement, Widlife, Clerical,

Administrative & more 1-800-320-9353 ext. 2200 **GRAPHIC DESIGNER** HoMedics, a large supplier of personal care products, has

an opening for a Graphic Designer. The ideal candidate will have a 4-year degree, 3+ years Macintosh experience, including Adobe Illustrator, Quark and Photoshop.

Competitive salary and excel lent benefits, including 401(k). Interested applicants must include a minimum salary requirement to be con sidered for this position.

Please email resume to: resume@homedics.com. **GROUNDS KEEPER** for luxury apartment commu nity in Farmington Hills. Ful Irrigation experience preferred. Salary + benefits Fax resume to 248-474-7043

or apply in person at Fairmon Park, located on the northeas corner of 9 Mile & Drake. HAIR STYLIST OR BARBER

needed for our upscale MEN's salon in Novi. Part or full Chris (248) 477-9128

HEALTH CLUB COUNTER MISC 5:30 a.m. \$11.00/hr./ 4:30 p.m. shift \$6.50/\$7,00 hr. Livonia 734 591-1212

HIRING FOR 2003 POSTAL POSITIONS. \$14.80-\$36.00+/HR. *Federal Hire with full benefits, *No experience necessary, *Paid training & vacations *Green card O.K.



Help Wanted General

INSTALLERS & SERVICE TECHS

For Pre-Fab Fireplaces & Garage Doors, Year round work in new homes. Must have truck & tools: Call Ron after 1pm at: 248-446-8334

INSTALLERS

House of Blinds & Drapery is looking for individuals to install blinds. General handyman experience is all is needed. Earning potential of \$1000 per week PLUS!! Reliable transportation is necessary. All interested candidates apply in person at 23000 W. Eight Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48034 or email tbrame@18004blinds.com

JUNIOR COUNSELOR

Canton Township is accepting applications for Jr. Counselor School Program) per hr. of First-Aid \$6.50-\$9.50 Knowledge of First-Aid methods. Minimum 16 yrs. of age. Must possess a current. valid Michigan Drivers License with a good driving record. Applicant may be required to apply for his/her driving record, at own expense, through the Secretary of State Applications available at the Canton Township Human Resources Division, 1150 S Canton Center Road, Canton MI 48188. An application form is also available on the Canton Township website at www.canton-mi.org. All

applicants must complete a Canton Township application form in its entirety and the form must be received by the Canton Township Human Resources Division prior to 4pm., December 26, 2003. Faxed applications will not be accepted. The Charter Township of Canton does not race, color, national origin sex, religion, age or disability

LATHE OPERATOR large, prototype parts. exp. helfpul. Full-time, benefits. Apply by mail or in person to: 33100 Capitol, 734-427-8550

employment or the

provision of services. An

Equal Opportunity Employer.

Leasing/Marketing Manager

Respected Property Management firm seeks Experienced.
Creative, Aggressive and Motivated person for a Large, Award-Winning and Pres-tigious West Bloomfield, MI Multi-family Apartment Community. Candidate must possess strong verbal and written communication skills. Responsibilities include the creation and supervision of marketing budgets, promo tions, hiring, training, supervi sion, motivation and evalua-tion of leasing team members as well as occupancy per with competitive compensa tion and benefits. Please fax your resume to 248-661-3246 or email to:

styler@beztak.com. EOE

MAINTENANCE Large Property Management Company seeking skilled, onmaintenance Qualities needed include basic plumbing and electrical. Must have a valid driver's license and ability to pass a background check. Call Ronda (248) 373-1400 or fax resume

to (248) 373-8946. **MAINTENANCE**

Needed for Dearborn Heights apt. community. Must have basic skills in plumbing, carpentry and HVAC. Must have valid drivers license and ability to pass a background check Apartment available after 30 days and includes benefits and advancement opportunity. Call Danielle at (248) 569-8880.

It's no gamble...



...when you advertise in The Observer & Eccentric

Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanled General (5000)

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN IV

Charter Township of Canton is accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of full-time Maintenance Technician IV. Position Involves various custodial, janitorial, manual labor and light maintenance tasks of Township owned buildings. Must possess a current, valid Michigan Drivers license with a driving history that does not create liability concerns; i.e. con-victions of reckless driving, careless driving, suspended license, or convictions in volving drinking and impaired driving. Rate of Pay: \$10.93 Applications may be picked up at Canton Township Human Resources Division 1150 S. Canton Center Boad self-addressed stamped business-size елуеюре address above for application (please specify Maintenance Technician IV application). An

application form is also available on the Canton Township website at www.canton-ml.org.
Job description will be posted at the Township Administration Canton Township application form must be received by the Human Resources Division in its entirety by 4pm., December 19, 2003. The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. An Equa

Maintenance Worker Novi Community. Handy-man, or apt or manufactured home maintenance back-ground needed. Full time ground needed. Full time Outdoor work. Responsibil ities: grounds, mowing, plow-ing, water leaks, maintenance. MUST BE EXPERIENCED

& DEPENDABLE \$10-\$12/hr, benefits in 30 days Fax resume: 248-624-9871

MANAGEMENT

Hestops China / S. Giffs

Positions available for Managers for retail store chain. Starting Salary \$24-\$30K/yr. Salary commensurate with avanciance Santian with experience. career minded, organized Individuals with leadership abilities, good communication skills and the ability to motivate. Salary + benefits. Will train right individuals. Send resumes to:

Hesiop, Inc. 22790 Hesilp Dr. Novi, MI 48375 ATTN: M. Nuenke FAX: 248-344-4342

MANAGER

needed for small apartment community in metro area Compensation to include an apartment & salary, Excellent opportunity for someone on a fixed income. Maintenance experience a plus. Please fax a resume to: (248)352-6737

MECHANIC

(TRUCK) Licensed mechanic want ed for private fleet to work w/other mechanic 3-5 years experience working on class 2-8 trucks. Must have air brake and welding experience. CDL A is a plus Wages negotiable, excel-lent benefits. Please call Keith for a telephone interview, 734-957-0109

REPRESENTATIVE

Full-time positions available a large Livonia financial institution. No weekends required.
Competitive salary, benefit
package & great environment.
Fax resume: 734-522-8296 or email: cstennett@cscu.org.

MINI-STORAGE MANAGER Walled Lake, mini-storage warehouse, computer literate, full-time, with references, send resume to: Box 0747, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI 48150.

MODEL HOME HOSTESS OPPORTUNITY - A premier Michigan residential builder seeks high quality helper to assist sales consultants. Professional appearance & basic office skills necessary. Must be able to work weekends. Fax resume to (248) 538-5434

Help Wanted General

MORTGAGE BROKER MANAGER

American Elite Financial is looking for a mortgage broker manager for immediate employment in our established Livonia office. Compensation package includes full benefits, Experience required in mortgage business with proven verifiable track

record.Candidate must be Professional 2. Experienced in mortgage business
3. Able to recruit and train loan officers.
If you fit these criteria please

call for a confidential interview @ 734-462-3059 ext. 100 MOVIE EXTRAS Earn \$200 \$600/per day. All looks, ages, types. No experience required. TV, music videos, film &

ercials. Work with the 1-800-260-3949 ext. 3244

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Canton Township is accepting

applications for Part-Time Maintenance, performing Maintenance, performing primarily custodial duties at the Summit on the Park Community Center. \$7.50 per hr. Previous cleaning experience preferred. Must possess a current, valid Michigan Drivers License with a driving history that does not create liability concerns. Applicant may be required to apply for his/her driving record, at own expense through the Secretary of State. Applications must be picked up at the Canton Township Human Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Mi 48188. An application form is also available on the Canton Township website www.canton-ml.org. A completed Canton Township application form must be completed in its entirety and on file with the Cantor ownship Human Resources Division by December 26 2003 at 4pm. The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

POSTAL JOBS **Announce-ment/ Public #USPS2475** UP TO \$29.16 HOUR, APPLI-CATION/INFORMATION, FREE CALL, NOW HIRING 2003 FEDERAL HIRE - FULL BENE-FITS. 1-800-892-5144 ext. 97

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SENIOR

COUNSELOR Canton Township is accepting applications for Sr. Counselor (After School Program). \$7.50-\$10.50 per hr. Must have completed a minimum of have completed a minimum of three years of high school. Minimum 1 yr, of experience in related field. Ability to work days, evenings, weekends. Must possess a current, valid Michigan Chauffeurs License with a good driving record Applicant may be required to apply for his/her driving record, at own expense, through the Secretary of State. Applications available at the Canton Township Humar Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. An application form is also available on the Canton Township website at www.canton-mi.org. All www.canton-mi.org. All applicants must complete a Canton Township application form in its entirety and the form must be received by the Canton Township Human Resources Division prior to 4pm., December 26, 2003. Faxed applications will not be accepted. The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate the basis of race, color, national origin, sex religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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person w/stable work history Fax resume: 248-855-7459

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7060

Auction Sales



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3 guests to:

Winners names will be chosen from all postcard entries and published every Thursday & Sunday in your Observer & Eccentric Classified section. We do

(Send one entry only)

December 22nd......Jackie Walker of Garden City December 26th.......Kelly Hubbard of Farmington Hills

Observer & Accentric

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7525.....Tools 7530.....Trade Or Sell 7540..... Wanted To Buy



7910..... Pet Supplies 7920 Pets Wanted

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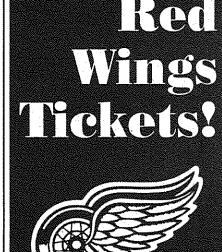
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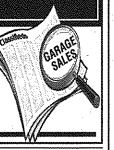
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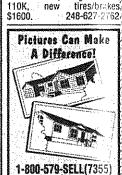
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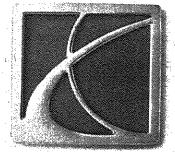
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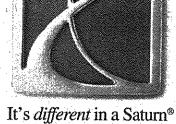
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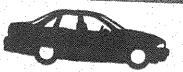
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The 2004 SAAB 9-3 & 9-5

Advertising Feature

hursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Saab vehicles used to be interesting mainly because they were so quirky-looking, and also because they represented a high execution of the Swedish specialty of safety engineering. But no more. Saabs are still some of the most crash-worthy vehicles on the road, but since the company's acquisition by General Motors a few years ago, Saab's product line-up has gone decidedly more mainstream - and upscale.

So now, vehicles like the Saab 9-3 and 9-5 that I drove recently are interesting because they're stylish, robust, and innovative as well as safe. That, in my book, means GM's investment in Saab already has paid off for consumers.

Saab's 9-3 compact is its best-selling line, and for 2004 a convertible has been added to the stable. The sedan comes in three versions: Linear, the luxury-oriented Arc, and the sporty Aero. I drove the Aero hardtop version, and I can imagine that the convertible is a winner if it adds just a little bit of open-top excitement to the wonderful base established by the sedan. Saab also is introducing a first-ever 9-3 wagon in 2004.

Saab completely redesigned and re-engineered the 9-3 sedan in 2003, transforming a strange-looking hatchback into a strong contender as a mainstream sports sedan. For one thing, Saab's styling went mainstream, with a raked windshield, for example, in contrast to the strongly vertical windshield in previous generations. (Note: Saab did away with exterior key holes completely in the new 9-3, forcing owners to rely entirely on their key fobs. That would make me a little nervous.)

The Aero version, with a suggested retail price of \$32,590, features a 210-horsepower, two-liter engine that uses a high-output turbocharger. The powertrain provided plenty of punch in most situations. But while I can't say I noticed that the engine displayed the particular problem of previous generations of turbochargers - "turbo lag" upon hitting the accelerator - there were times when it wasn't as quickly and powerfully responsive as I would have hoped. Mileage is very good, at 20 mpg in the city and 29 on the highway.



The Saab 9-5 Convertible is stylish as well as safe.

Handling-wise, the suspension is taught and cornering is delightful.

Inside, as well, Saabs these days are different. The Aero version has a sumptuous leather interior which looked very sharp, borrowing from three distinct, yet subtly blending, shades of gray. There's quite ample room in the back seat and trunk of this four-passenger sedan, although I understand that the 9-3 convertible gives up about 10 inches of hip room and nearly three inches of leg room to the sedan.

The ignition receptacle is still located down on the center console behind the gearshift between the front seats, a Saab tradition – and still a good place for it to be located, I think, because it enables the driver to avoid having to stab everything behind the steering column before finding the key slot and then, having succeeded, to avoid having to listen to a set of keys banging against the instrument panel or steering column.

I also liked a couple of other design features in the 9-3. One was the fact that the power-mirror controls are located high on the driver's door, basically just inside the window from the left side view mirror - a very sensible location because it closely relates the control to what it is controlling. On so many vehicles, you have to search up and down the driver's side of the vehicle to find these important controls. Further, I

liked the location of the digital "information center" in a slight bump very close to the base of the windshield - in other words, slid way back from the driver's face toward the front of the vehicle. It makes the data that is tracked by this digital pod, including time and temperature, much less distracting for the driver to locate than it is in many other vehicles.

However, I strongly disliked the old fashioned lucid-green readouts on the various digital information devices in the front. And getting to a radio station - unless it was pre-set - took way too long and too many steps not to frustrate the average listener.

And, of course, Saabs still come equipped with some of the best packages of safety equipment on the road. Dual-stage front airbags as well as dual-stage side-impact airbags, protecting both torso and head, come standard, as does Saab's Active Head Restraint system that automatically cradles the head to minimize whiplash in a rear-impact collision. Anti-lock brakes, traction control and electronic-stability engineering are among the several ways that the 9-3 helps drivers maintain control.

The 9-3 is helping Saab make a new mark in the U.s. automotive marketplace. The quirks are a thing of the past.

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